Shepherd's Bush CHRONICLE

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SEE PAGE 16

Race to register voters for May election

BY JACK DIXON
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THOUSANDS of unregistered voters in Shepherd's Bush could miss out on the chance to choose London's next mayor.

With less than three months to go until polling day, several thousand people across the borough have still not been added to the electoral register.

Council officers have already begun door-to-door sweeps to encourage residents to return the essential registration forms, which will enable them to make their voice heard on May 5. Every household in the borough will also be sent a reminder letter this week, as election officers seek to ensure as many people as possible are signed up to vote.

Hammersmith and Fulham's returning officer, Nigel Pallace, who will be in charge of counting votes on election day, urged anyone who had not already registered to do so urgently.

"There are important elections coming up this year which will decide the future of London and we want all local residents to be able to have their say," he said.

Changes to the electoral system introduced in 2014

TURN TO PAGE 3

■ NATIONAL ACCOLADE: A family-run pharmacy in Shepherd's Bush has been named the best in the UK by industry experts. The Bush Pharmacy, in Uxbridge Road, made it third time lucky to win the Best Independent Community Pharmacy prize at the SMART awards, having twice finished as runner-up at big industry events. Co-manager Sailesh Pindolia, pictured above, whose father Kishor set up the business 30 years ago, collected the prestigious award at the ceremony in Birmingham last week

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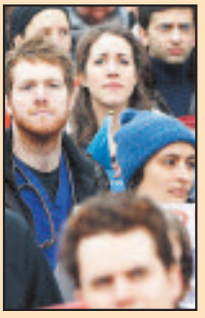
Red carpet treat for children PAGE 11

Legal blow for cabbie's cycle fight PAGE 9



Hospitals face exodus of doctors PAGE 5

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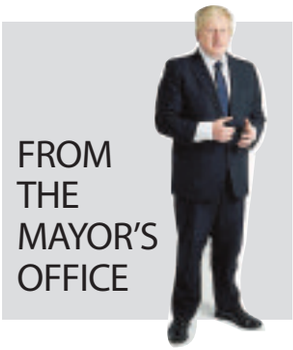
Obesity figures offer food for thought

SOME 500 fast-food takeaways in the capital have signed up to an initiative that encourages them to sell healthier food, the Mayor of London announced this week.

The mayor also revealed that JJ Food Service, one of the largest suppliers of food to takeaways, is now promoting the Healthier Catering Commitment to the 13,000 restaurants they count as customers. JJ will encourage them to buy healthier ingredients and cooking products, meaning a potentially huge change in the food that takeaways across London sell to their customers.

Recent research in Tower Hamlets revealed one fast-food takeaway selling a portion of chips totalling 1,865 calories, 93 per cent of daily recommended intake, and 69g of fat. Their research showed that portion sizes are increasing as takeaways compete for custom.

Poor eating habits are widely regarded to be one of the main causes of obesity. Londoners living or working close to clusters of takeaway outlets are twice as likely to be obese and more likely to eat unhealthy food. Over half of the adult population in London is either obese or overweight.



In young Londoners, one in five is obese and one in three is either obese or overweight.

Since 2012, the mayor has supported environmental health and public health teams to deliver the Healthier Catering Commitment for London. 500 restaurants in 22 boroughs have signed up to the voluntary scheme that incentivises food outlets to make small changes to improve the quality of the food they sell.

Mayor Boris Johnson said: "It is terrible that as a city, and indeed as a nation, we are getting fatter. Throughout my mayoralty I've invested in grassroots sports and food programmes to get Londoners healthier and fitter, but we still need to do more to tackle our expanding waistlines.

"Life in a busy city means that we inevitably enjoy fast food, whilst takeaway businesses make a great contribution to local economies and this scheme ensures takeaway food can be a healthier option."

Rosie Boycott, chair of the London Food Board said: "Getting JJ's on board is a massive step forward for the Healthier Catering Commitment and I am encouraged that they are taking a lead to change the terrible health outcomes of so much of London's fast food.

"However, I would like to see even more changes to how takeaways operate. In some parts of the capital there are up to 40 fast food takeaways within half a mile of schools and many of them entice children by cutting their prices at school leaving time. Sadly, we can do nothing to stop that and at the moment all action is voluntary, but this must change in the future."

To help make London's takeaways healthier, supplier JJ Food Service will offer a 10 per cent discount off five Healthier Catering Commitment items for a full three months to customers who are signing up to the Healthier Catering Commitment food award.

Terry Larkin, Group General Manager, JJ Food Service, said: "We are delighted about our partnership with the London Food Board and the Healthier Catering Commitment. Through making some changes to the menu as well as increasing healthier options available, we want to encourage fast food businesses to purchase healthier products which, in turn, we hope will have a positive impact on what customers eat."

The mayor's Healthier Catering Commitment (HCC) is a voluntary scheme for food outlets in London to encourage them to improve their food offering. Participating restaurants, such as the Valley Café in Charlton, are awarded with the HCC logo.

Mehmet Manyera, owner of the Valley café a HCC registered business, said: "At Valley Café, we are working with the Healthier Catering Commitment and are applying it to the way we prepare and cook our food. The café is really busy and doing well and we are delighted".

The Healthier Catering Commitment is just one of the mayor's initiatives to get Londoners eating good quality, affordable food:

- In 2012 the mayor produced the Takeaway Toolkit to help boroughs work with takeaway businesses to make food healthier, as well as with schools to reduce the amount of unhealthy food children consume from takeaway food shops.
- The London Healthy Workplace Charter, co-ordinated by the Greater London Authority, provides the framework to support employers to develop good practice by promoting health in their organisations in a practical way.
- The Healthy Schools scheme supports pupils to make healthy food choices and be more active.
- The London Food Flagship programme has established two Food Flagship boroughs, Croydon and Lambeth.
- In January City Hall, the home of the Greater London Authority, introduce a 10p charge on all added-sugar soft drinks sold in the building's café, with proceeds going to health campaigns.

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NEWS FROM SHEPHERD'S BUSH

■ ON THE BALL: Pupils fromShepherd's Bush primary schools were among dozens of youngsters who took part in the Hi-5s netball competition. The tournament was held at the Godolphin and Latymer School, with aspiring sports stars from 15 schools going head to head on the court. A team from Good Shepherd Catholic Primary School (pictured) came out on top after beating Lena Gardens Primary in a closely-fought final. The team will now go forward to represent the borough at the London Youth Games at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre in March

Thousands risk losing vote

FROM PAGE 1

mean that each individual person must now complete a separate registration.

Under the previous rules, all members of a household could be registered under a single form.

The changes are thought to have left tens of thousands of voters across the capital unaware that they are not registered to take part in the upcoming elections. The council is also warning people who have recently moved to the borough that they are likely not to be registered and should check online to make sure.

Mr Pallace added: "Check if you are registered to vote and sign up if you need to. Registering to vote is quick and easy. Do not miss out on votes which affect your life."

The Conservatives' Zac Goldsmith and Labour's Sadiq Khan are expected to be the frontrunners in the mayoral election on May 5.

As the race for City Hall hots up, the leading candidates have already clashed over housing, transport and environmental policy. But electors will also have the chance to cast their votes on dozens of candidates hoping to take their place on the London Assembly – the body responsible for scrutinising the work of the Mayor.

The turnout at the last London Assembly elections in 2012 was 2.2 million – only 40.9 per cent – and down by almost five per cent on the 2008 figure.

In the 2012 mayoral election voter turnout was even lower, with just 38.1 per cent – down from 45.3 per cent in 2008 - choosing to exercise their democratic right.

For more information about registering visit *www.gov.uk/register-to-vote*

■ STUCK: Drivers faced long delays in Shepherd's Bush after a lorry became stuck across a major junction. The vehicle, which was transporting a large crane on its trailer, caused disruption when it jack-knifed across a box junction on Uxbridge Road outside Shepherd's Bush station. Police cordoned off the junction during the rush hour on Wednesday morning, February 10. Several other roads were closed and traffic was directed away from the junction. Transport for London tweeted at around 2.20pm that the lorry had been removed and that traffic was moving again as normal. Bus users suffered delays of over an hour as a result of the incident

Picture: Liam Doyle

Funding shake-up 'risks teaching jobs'

BY JACK DIXON
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TEACHING jobs in Shepherd's Bush will be threatened and some schools could even be at risk of closure if the Government presses ahead with changes to the way school funding is allocated, councillors have warned.

Labour councillors are anticipating "huge problems" in Shepherd's Bush if the plans for a 'national funding formula' are followed through.

The Department for Education is drawing up plans it says will make school funding fairer. But critics fear that schools with the highest needs will lose out.

Councillor Sue Macmillan, Hammersmith and Fulham council's cabinet member for children and education, warned of a "10 per cent cut" for some schools in the borough.

"Figures provided by the group lobbying for changes to school funding show the large scale of the proposed cuts to spending, which would pile pressure on schools already struggling with teacher recruitment and ever-increasing overheads," she said.

"This is why the council are determined to stand with teachers and parents and fight the plans."

Cllr Macmillan said she had written to all of Hammersmith and Fulham's headteachers to discuss the policy.

She quoted one head as saying that reductions in funding "would compound what is already a crisis in our schools".

Cllr Macmillan added: "[Headteachers] have indicated that cuts on this level could see teaching and support staff roles cut and many subjects discontinued.

"There is also a danger that the hard-won increase in GCSE attainment in the borough, especially amongst our most disadvantaged pupils, would slide backwards, needlessly damaging the life chances of thousands of children."

The new funding formula is expected to set a national rate that schools will be awarded for each pupil, with additional cash provided for those with extra needs.

Formal plans have not yet been put forward but a consultation is anticipated this year.

Councillor Caroline Ffiske, the Hammersmith and Fulham Conservative group spokeswoman for education, accused Labour of "blatant self-interested scare-mongering".

She said: "At the moment we do not have further detail and I think that Labour in Hammersmith and Fulham is scaremongering in a very irresponsible way.

"Instead they need to be focusing on the work that needs to be done to protect funding for Hammersmith and Fulham schools."

A spokesman for the Department For Education said speculation about the policy was "irresponsible and unfair to schools and parents".

He added: "We are committed to making funding fairer to address the historic unfairness in the system. But areas with the highest need will still attract the most funding.

"Pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds will attract significant extra funding to their schools under the national funding formula, so areas such as London will still attract significantly more than the national average."

New threat to Garden Bridge plan

BY GEOFF BAKER
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JOANNA Lumley's and Boris Johnson's controversial Garden Bridge now looks doomed never to span the Thames – following concerns over how the the project was allocated and demands from the London Assembly for £30million of public money to be given back immediately.

Hopes for the bridge have been thrown into chaos after the Royal Institute of British Architects called for the project to be stopped pending an official probe into the "fairness" of the procurement process that led to architect Thomas Heatherwick winning the £175 million bridge deal.

The future of the bridge looks rocky after the president of the RIBA revealed that she was "extremely concerned" about allegations that Mr Heatherwick and London Mayor Boris Johnson promoted the Garden Bridge in San Francisco before the official 2013 Transport for London (TfL) contest to find its designer.

RIBA president Jane Duncan told *The Architects' Journal*: "The allegations relating to the procurement of the Garden Bridge are extremely concerning. All those who bid for work have a right to expect their submissions will be judged fairly, transparently and in accordance with the law."

She added: "Given the high-profile nature of this project, the amount of public money at stake and the seriousness of the allegations, we would urge that the project is put on hold and the whole procurement process is then opened up to detailed scrutiny."

It is reported that Mayor Johnson met Mr Heatherwick two weeks before TfL invited Heatherwick Studio to tender for the project. It ended up beating rival bridge plans from Marks Barfield and Wilkinson Eyre.

Mr Heatherwick's submission, released after a freedom of information request, was an elaboration of his original design. It is also reported that Lumley, the most high-profile campaigner for the project, is an associate of Heatherwick Studio.

The mayor's meeting with Mr Heatherwick was omitted from his official report to the London Assembly, despite the inclusion of his main activities being a statutory requirement, and his trip to San Francisco with Mr Heatherwick was also omitted from his monthly report.

But the mayor appears set to ignore calls for an official investigation and to plough on with trying to get the Garden Bridge built.

A mayor's spokesman said: "An audit of Transport for London's procurement process has already found that it was open, fair and transparent; and the mayor does not intend to halt a project that will be a spectacular new addition to London.

"Work on building the bridge is due to begin this year and is widely supported by Londoners and businesses on both sides of the river."

However, Mr Johnson will leave the mayor's office in May and if the favourite to replace him, Labour candidate Sadiq Khan, wins the post then a full investigation is likely.

In the meantime, Mayor Johnson now faces mounting demand from the London Assembly for him to be publicly called to task and answer growing doubts about the project.

The Assembly also wants to put a stick in the works by demanding that £30million of public money pledged for the bridge through Transport for London is paid back "as quickly as possible".

The Assembly also agreed a motion calling for the mayor to promptly answer all mayoral questions relating to the Garden Bridge procurement process.

Caroline Pidgeon, the Assembly Member who proposed the motion, said: "Over the last year detail after detail about the unorthodox procurement process for the design of a pedestrian bridge over the Thames has slowly come to light.

"The latest discovery is that even before Transport for London had invited companies to submit their design bids for the bridge the mayor was flying around the world at taxpayers' expense to promote one specific design.

"It is time that the full facts over the procurement of the design contract were finally revealed. In the meantime not a penny more of public money should be poured into the project and every attempt should be made to recover any public money already allocated."

Tom Copley AM, who seconded the motion said: "If the Garden Bridge is to go ahead it must be done properly. That means a free and fair procurement process and transparency about the mayor's role.

"Questions remain over the procurement process, which undermine support for the Bridge to the extent the Royal Institute of British Architects are now calling for the project to be halted. Given all of this, I can't see how the bridge can go ahead."

The full motion reads: "The Assembly notes the latest revelations about the procurement process for design services for a proposed pedestrian bridge linking South Bank to Temple.

"The Assembly regrets that the mayor has described his publicly-funded trip to San Francisco in early February 2013 as merely a private trip. Furthermore, the Assembly expresses its concern that the mayor was willing to attend meetings seeking sponsorship for one specific design when TfL had not even started the procurement process for the design of the bridge.

"The Assembly urges the mayor to fully comply with any outstanding and further inquiries by the GLA Oversight Committee and to ensure that all mayoral questions relating to the Garden Bridge are promptly answered. The Assembly reiterates that there is no case for TfL funding to be allocated to the Garden Bridge Trust and urges TfL to now enter into discussions to ensure that existing public money allocated to the project is fully recovered as quickly as possible."

Ms Duncan said she was not casting aspersions on the standard of the designs by Heatherwick.

"This is by no means a comment on the work of the immensely talented Heatherwick Studio and Arup teams," she said. "Our concerns are about the fairness and transparency of the procurement process."

Writing for you every week, London's most outspoken entrepreneur

Charlie pipes up!

Learn from the best to succeed

GETTING the right balance of age and experience in the workforce is a big challenge for business owners. Even for medium-sized firms that have the luxury of a dedicated personnel department, one of the things that keeps entrepreneurs awake at night is how they can maintain a workforce that delivers on their vision for the enterprise.

Having too many mature workers will lead to a skills gap that's hard to bridge; have too many young, inexperienced staff, a business might not have the credibility to build a reputation with its customers because, as is the nature of youth, mistakes will happen.

Perhaps, the latter was an influence on the new England rugby coach Eddie Jones when he picked his team for the Calcutta Cup match on the opening weekend of the Six Nations tournament. Before the England team even took to the pitch at Murrayfield, Jones had been criticised for picking a relatively conservative line-up, adopting for experience over youth with a starting line-up containing 512 caps, but no debutants.

After England's poor showing in last year's World Cup perhaps you can understand his hesitance to experiment with youth. And, with a 15-9 victory, it can be argued he was justified in his decisions. But on the flip side, and to keep up the sporting analogy, Sir Alex Ferguson proved the pundits wrong in 1995 when his Manchester United team won the Premier League and FA Cup double with 'kids'.

The same challenge faces entrepreneurs every day and reliance on one group of workers over another can be a real gamble. The make-up of the team around an entrepreneur has to be right for the business and, undoubtedly, that's about achieving that right mix of youthful determination and time-served experience. In my business life I have been an advocate for two things, older workers and apprentices. Neither of these things have been by accident as I know the value of both groups of employees to my business. Equally importantly, I know that they can't truly succeed, and therefore neither can my business, if they don't work in harmony.

More than 20 percent of my workforce at Pimlico Plumbers is over the age of 55 and, on the trades' side of the business, even those who have not reached that age have a minimum of 10 years' experience in their chosen trade. That is because I only want the best working for me. Not only so my customers get the best service, although that, of course, is always the main priority, but also so my younger employees, including my apprentices, can learn from the best.

Investing in the future of a firm by having an apprenticeship programme will only truly bear fruit if it's part of a business culture where young workers can learn from those around them. Don't get me wrong, I truly believe the mix of practical, on-the-job learning and vocational qualifications of apprenticeships do lay the foundations for the creation of skilled and motivated employees. But put them alongside an experienced and talented member of your team who is not only an expert in their field, but is ingrained in the culture of the business, then a company will only really see the benefits of investing in youth. Quite simply, learn from the best to be the best. It's a philosophy I use across my business, not just those working on the tools, but in every department from our garage and call centre through to our accounts and customer service teams.

So while Eddie Jones can bask in the glory of his Calcutta Cup victory, there is a danger that if he doesn't start blending youth with experience he could find his older players soon retiring and not have the chance for the youngsters to benefit from working with the established players.

For a business, that's never a risk worth taking.

Views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of this newspaper

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LONDON WIDE

Hospitals braced for doctors' exodus

BY LWN REPORTER
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NHS hospitals in London face a mass resignation of junior doctors and an influx of trainee medics from abroad as health chief Jeremy Hunt pushes through his highly-unpopular Saturday contract.

More than 4,500 junior doctors currently working in the capital say they will quit the health service because the Health Secretary is to impose his controversial Saturday working plan, causing an emergency staffing shortage.

Mr Hunt said he had "no choice" but to stick to a tough line on the Saturday working plan, which is fiercely-opposed by the doctors' British Medical Association.

But junior doctors in the capital say that as the Saturday working plan is to be imposed regardless of their protests, then 90 per cent of them will quit – causing chaos in hospitals and risking a temporary close down of many departments until health chiefs can re-staff with doctors hired from abroad.

A poll of junior doctors taken last week before Mr Hunt forced through his new deal revealed that 90 per cent would consider resigning if the Government imposed the contract, which will take effect this summer. According to figures obtained from NHS London, that would mean the loss of at least 4,550 junior doctors across the capital.

Junior doctors are now looking to leave London and complete their training in hospitals where Mr Hunt's contract has no effect – Scotland and Wales and abroad, principally to Australia and New Zealand.

During last Wednesday's strike, one junior doctor protesting on Westminster Bridge told the BBC: "We reapply for jobs every couple of years. I'm meant to be applying for my speciality training next year, but I know of just a handful of people who are going to be reapplying.

"We're just going to leave. Everyone I know is going to Australia or New Zealand.

"Out of the class of 21 junior doctors I work with only two are applying for jobs here next year, the rest of us are having a year out of training and that is pretty representative of how people are feeling."

■ **NO WAY BACK: Junior doctors day they may quit the NHS over enforced new contracts**

Faced with mass resignations, the NHS would have to hire in thousands of foreign trainee doctors in order to maintain normal service.

However, this could be an attractive option for cost-slashing health chiefs because foreign trainee doctors working in London are subsidised by their countries' governments and so come at a much lower cost to the NHS than employing British trainees – who cost almost £300,000 each to fully train.

Last year the NHS hired in around 3,000 doctors from overseas, from more than 25 countries including India, Poland, Greece, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan, Hungary and Romania.

Dr Mark Porter, BMA Chair of Council, said: "It is not surprising that many junior doctors are thinking of leaving the NHS when the Government imposes such unfair contracts.

"Junior doctors already work weekends for patients and the Government's recognition of this in England is to propose cutting fair weekend pay rates in the very medical specialties where patients rely most on weekend working.

"In putting politics before common sense, the Government has given young, committed doctors no choice."

The new deal is:

■ The Government is offering extra pay after 5pm on Saturdays

■ But they have offered to top up the pay by 30 per cent for those who work regular Saturdays - defined as at least one in four

■ The BMA wants all day Saturday for everyone to be paid at 50 per cent above the basic rate

■ Agreement has not been reached on on-call allowances, how limits on working hours are to be policed and days off between night shifts

■ The Government has offered a basic pay rise of 13.5 per cent

■ The BMA has said it is willing to accept between a four per cent and seven per cent hike in basic pay to cover the weekend pay issue.

But doctors are now claiming that the row is about a much wider issue – involving the Government's desire to privatise "elective non-urgent healthcare" like hip replacements.

One doctor told LBC last week: "I don't think this is about just junior doctors. In my opinion this is about a much wider political picture, we have to take into account the socio-political climate here.

"With the Health and Social Care Act of 2012, the Government was devolved of responsibility for the NHS. The public don't know that at all. What the Government is trying to do with this whole bringing care into weekends is not to increase emergency care because of course we do that already.

"What they are trying to do is to introduce elective non-urgent clinics into weekends.

"The NHS is sold off to private hands, which is no secret. In the whole of Wiltshire children's services have just been sold off to Virgin Care, the whole of Devon has been sold off to Virgin and Sittingbourne in Kent has just been sold off too.

"When the NHS is being sold off, private companies do not want our complex long-term physical or mental health patients.

"What they want is the lovely little non-urgent clinics which are now in the weekends and they can buy off."

Meanwhile, Jeremy Hunt has been reportedly tipped for the sack in David Cameron's next reshuffle after failing to head off the junior doctors' strikes.

According to The Sunday Times "senior Tories say Chancellor George Osborne, wants Boris Johnson to take over as Health Secretary in what allies of the London mayor view as 'literally a hospital pass' designed to dent his leadership hopes.

"One Cabinet minister said Hunt is vulnerable because he 'was sent to health to keep the NHS out of the headlines — and instead we've got the first doctors' strike in a generation'".

The Sunday Times claimed a close ally of the Prime Minister has sounded out Tory MPs about Mr Johnson taking over from Mr Hunt later this year.

Breaking news: drivers' pet hates

LONDON'S young drivers have revealed what they most hate about motoring in the capital – passengers passing wind in their cars.

A Car Loan Warehouse survey of London drivers has revealed that those aged 18 to 24 are most likely to kick up a stink over bad-mannered passengers forcing them to open all the windows.

Forty four per cent of young drivers said it was their pals letting off that made them maddest when on the road. For older drivers, their passengers leaving a mess of food wrappers in their cars was the biggest bugbear for men – with 39 per cent hating that – and most women [52 per cent] hate it most when passengers distract them when they are driving.

Other annoyances include the traditional irritation of back-seat drivers [31 per cent cannot stand them], children asking 'are we there yet?' [25 per cent], passengers putting their feet on the seats [19 per cent], and passengers eating and drinking [17 per cent].

Others include passengers slamming doors, changing the radio station without asking, not chipping in for petrol and those that leave nail clippings in their cars.

Fair puts art in the heart of Chelsea

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE Chelsea Art Fair will be celebrating its 21st birthday at the Chelsea Old Town Hall from Thursday, April 21, to Sunday, April 24.

Organisers say the "chic boutique fair has established itself as the London art fair which brings first class modern and contemporary art to the heart of Chelsea with a particular focus on three-dimensional art".

The fair offers a wide selection of artists represented by around 35 of the most respected modern and contemporary art galleries from around the UK.

A spokesman said: "This fair is all about quality and while the majority of works will have price tags from £500 to £50,000, some sculptures on view will exceed that.

"Galleries tend to bring their highlights to Chelsea, with many of the works shown for the first time in London. Works by well-known artists can be found next to some great new discoveries, which make this fair such a magnet for connoisseurs.

"All galleries are selected by fair director Ben Cooper and a small committee of experts and this rigorous selection process makes it so popular with collectors. The relaxing, contemporary atmosphere also means that there is a chance to take time to look at the art and talk to dealers, who are more than happy to give advice to new as well as established collectors."

The late-night opening on April 21 is being seen as "a celebration of the King's Road art scene, putting Chelsea very much back on the art map".

This year, the event is supporting Rainbow Trust Children's Charity, which is celebrating its 30th birthday, and there will be many opportunities to support them by buying art at the fair and attending talks.

Mr Cooper said: "We are looking forward to celebrating our 21st birthday with some of the best galleries, some well-established ones which have been supporting the fair since its inception and some great new additions. More than ever, the fair should appeal to local art lovers as well as visitors from all over London, Britain and abroad."

Art fair opening times are: Thursday, 11-8, Friday and Saturday 11-7, Sunday 11-5. Tickets cost £6. Latest information and e-tickets can be found on *www.chelseaartfair.org* or on Twitter and Facebook.

■ The Rainbow Trust cares for families who have a child with a life threatening or terminal illness, providing bespoke emotional and practical support for the whole family, whenever and wherever it is needed. Today they are the only organisation that provides support directly to the whole family, helping them to keep hold of a normal life as much as possible.

Rainbow Trust has nine teams of Family Support Workers who are there to help 24 hours a day from diagnosis, through treatment, and for some, through bereavement and beyond. They stay for as long as the family needs them.

For further details visit *www.rainbowtrust.org.uk*

■ **IN THE FRAME: Visitors enjoy a recent Chelsea Arts Fair**

■ **LONDON VIEW: Edward Waite – an example of his work is featured above – will have more of his creativity on show at this year's Chelsea Arts Fair. Above right: Janet Golphin, The Red Rug, £2,950 at Russell Gallery @ChelseaArtFair**

Airport link consultation

RESIDENTS and businesses are being invited to have their say at a series of public consultation events on Network Rail's updated plans for a new link connecting the rail network from the Westcountry to Heathrow.

The proposed link, subject to planning permission, includes a 5km tunnel from the Great Western main line to Heathrow Terminal 5, enabling passengers throughout the West to travel to the airport from Reading, Twyford, Maidenhead and Slough, without the need to change at Paddington station.

This will mean faster, more convenient journeys for passengers, with travel times expected to be around 26 minutes from Reading and seven minutes from Slough.

Shorter, more direct journeys to and from London Heathrow are also promised, providing "a significant opportunity for businesses across the Thames Valley, M4 corridor, South West and South Wales, enabling these businesses to save time and money, increasing their productivity and helping to deliver economic growth in these regions".

Mark Langman, Network Rail's managing director for the Western route, said:

"This proposed link presents many opportunities for residents and businesses based across the Thames Valley, south west and west. It will not only provide millions of passengers with faster journeys, but it will also help to relieve congestion at London Paddington and open opportunities for thousands of businesses, enabling them to become more competitive and increasing economic growth."

Big match for racism victim

THE commuter racially abused by Chelsea supporters and blocked from boarding a Paris Metro train has accepted an invitation from French club Paris St Germain to watch the London club's Champions League tie in the French capital.

Souleymane Sylla, a French-Mauritian, will watch the last-16 first leg at Parc des Princes next week, the Press Association reported.

Mr Sylla was repeatedly pushed backwards off a carriage amid chants of "we're racist, we're racist, and that's the way we like it" as Chelsea supporters travelled to their club's February 17, 2015 match with PSG. Chelsea condemned the incident and five men were given football banning orders of up to five years last July. All received lifetime bans from the club.

Mr Sylla was so traumatised he had to take six months off work, and he used the Metro for the first time since the incident a few days ago.

He declined an invitation from Chelsea to attend the return leg in London in March 2015, as he said the ordeal was too raw. The club extended their offer as an open invitation, which remains in place.

Let's get on with Crossrail says Boris

BY LWN REPORTER
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LONDON Mayor Boris Johnson MP this week urged the Government to give the green light to taking Crossrail 2 forward and commit the necessary funding for the new railway line in next month's budget.

He has also warned that any delay will result in £4billion in lost economic benefit every six months.

Speaking in Westminster, Mr Johnson said that if Crossrail 2 is to be running when it is needed in 2030, not only is funding required for detailed technical work, but the Government must also allow for Parliamentary time to seek the necessary powers.

Crossrail 2 will see a tunnel built from Wimbledon to New Southgate and Tottenham Hale, linking railways in Surrey and Hertfordshire. It will enable up to 270,000 additional people to enter central London every weekday morning at peak time and transform connections across London and the wider South East.

The mayor's comments came in the week Transport for London (TfL) made its final bid to the National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) for development funding. The total estimated boost of the project to the UK economy has been estimated by accountants KPMG at up to £102billion, as well as supporting over 200,000 new homes and jobs.

■ **TRAIN REACTION: London Mayor Boris Johnson and Prime Minister David Cameron on a visit to the Crossrail project**

The mayor called on the Government to bring forward legislation in 2018 to ensure that the bulk of the Parliamentary work is completed in the course of this Parliament and to provide the necessary development funding in next month's budget to allow that timetable to be met. Securing this funding would mean that TfL and Network Rail can progress with a full-scale technical development of the railway immediately.

With London's population rising from 8.6 million today to an expected 10 million by 2030, and significant population growth also expected across the entire South East of the country, supporters of the project say the new rail line is vital to relieving increasing pressure on London's transport network. They say Crossrail 2 will transform connections and reduce journey times from the Solent to the Wash.

TfL has already set out how London could pay for half of the cost of Crossrail 2 through a number of mechanisms already being used successfully to pay for Crossrail 1. TfL's latest position goes further, proposing a London 'gain share' deal that could make a significant additional contribution to the cost. Gain share deals capture the increased tax generated through growth in jobs and homes that a new railway creates, such as additional stamp duty. The Chancellor has already agreed similar deals with nine other cities.

Mr Johnson said: "If we want Crossrail 2 to be taking people to work in the early 2030s when it will be desperately needed, there is no time for delay and we need to continue at full-throttle with our development work this year. For that, we need serious funding in next month's budget. We also need a commitment from Government to bring forward the legislation to give us planning powers as soon as possible. Only with that will we be able to start digging early next decade and have the new trains running to meet the needs of the region's rapidly growing population.

"Moreover, Crossrail 2 can pay for itself. We are proposing a new mechanism to fund this major project. We are offering a conditional funding deal based on the impact Crossrail 2 will have.

"We want this to be independently assessed because we believe the extra growth from Crossrail 2 will more than pay for the scheme itself. Other cities have struck gain-share deals like this with Government and London is up for the same."

Capital arrivals' compelling view of their new home city

LONDON is a kaleidoscopic, ever-changing city as more and more people make it home.

Ben Judah, an acclaimed foreign correspondent hailing from the capital, does an exceptional job in his new book, *This Is London: Life And Death In The World City*, exploring the lives of those arriving looking for a better life, immersing himself in their world.

From cold, hungover mornings at Victoria Station, the capital's Ellis Island, to sleeping rough with Romanian beggars in a subway at Hyde Park Corner, the writer goes above and beyond to tell the stories of London's seen but unheard.

The book is a wonderfully-written, fascinating account of modern-day life, offering a glimpse of the world from those arriving in the city hoping for a better life.

The overriding assessment is negative, whether it be the disillusioned Nigerian police officer claiming "the English are vanishing" or the Roma gypsy bemoaning the deceptive images on television.

It is, though, a thought-provoking look at London's underbelly, with one subject telling the author: "London can crush you or London can transform you."

■ **NEW RELEASE: Ben Judah's latest book, *This Is London: Life And Death in The World City***

The book lacks a look at the transformative effect life in the city can have, but this is an important, detailed read on the stories of those often unheard.

Judah was born in London. He has travelled widely in Russia, Central Asia and the Levant. His writing has featured widely, including the *New York Times*, the *Evening Standard*, the *Financial Times* and *Standpoint*.

His first book, *Fragile Empire*, was published by Yale University Press in 2013.

■ *This Is London: Life And Death In The World City* by Ben Judah, is published by Picador, priced £18.99 (ebook £7.19)

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Changes loom for film studios

THE owner of London's Pinewood Studios – home to the James Bond and Star Wars films – could be sold as the company looks to "maximise value" for shareholders,it was reported this week.

Pinewood Group told the Press Association it had appointed the Rothschild investment bank to carry out a strategic review of the business that "could include a sale of the company", which has a market value of £258 million.

The group, which also includes Shepperton Studios, has made more than 2,000 films and 800 TV shows over the last 80 years.

Star Wars: The Force Awakens, one of the biggest grossing films of all time, was made there as was last year's 24th official Bond film *Spectre*.

Last April, the group completed a £30 million placing to build five new sound stages at Pinewood, due to be completed in June. But the group wants further funds to continue to expand the business and reward existing investors, which include insurer Aviva.

Dry dock

A MAN who refused to move his boat from council owned land has been ordered to pay more £700 following a trial.

Christopher Akerman, 39, ignored four warnings from Richmond Council to move his boat, The Longwood Lady, between March and June last year after it was moored to Ham Lands.

Rush for one-bed homes sends property market into overdrive

BY LWN REPORTER
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THE number of new buyer registrations and tenancy agreements in London has soared in the last 12 months, as buyers and renters hunt for one-bedroom homes, according to estate agent Marsh & Parsons.

The agents' latest *London Property Monitor* guide shows that the number of new buyers registering last month was 24 per cent higher than in the same month in 2015 like-for-like. Sought-after outer London areas are experiencing the highest New Year demand from interested buyers, with Barnes and Bishops Park among the strongest rises in the number of buyers registering to buy property.

However, this sudden surge in demand for 'prime' London properties is contrasting with a continued shortage of housing stock in the capital.

The supply of homes in 'prime' London fell 12 per cent year-on-year in the last three months of 2015. This has led to intense competition to own a home in the capital, with 13 buyers for every property in 'prime' London at the end of last year.

Peter Rollings chief executive of Marsh & Parsons, said: "The London property market has begun 2016 with a spring in its step. The New Year always tends to bring a resurgence in purchase activity, as buyers shake off the last of the Christmas holiday haze and refocus their attention on climbing up, or onto, the ladder.

■ MOVING STORY: The race is on for one-bedroom homes

"But the figures we're currently seeing are strong even by those standards. Private buyers, landlords and other investors are rushing to secure their preferred property before the 1st April Stamp Duty hike."

In the lettings market, increased demand has led to a burst of January activity. The number of tenancies agreed in the first two weeks of 2016 was up 44 per cent compared to the same period in January 2015 on a like-for-like basis. Sought-after areas of central London in particular enjoyed solid lettings growth, as agreed tenancies surged by 91 per cent. The central zone is expected to see faster rental activity in 2016 than it did last year, when a slowdown in corporate lettings resulted in cooler annual rental growth of 0.6 per cent. Meanwhile, what is known as 'outer prime' London saw steadier expansion in tenancy agreements – of 23 per cent – in January 2016 on a year-on-year basis.

One-bedroom properties are the main drivers of this strong growth in lettings activity and property demand. These smaller homes have seen the biggest rise in value of any property type in 'prime' London over the past year, with average prices increasing 3.1 per cent between Q4 2014 and Q4 2015 – equating to a real-term rise in value of £18,417. By contrast, average Prime London property prices saw only a 1.7 per cent increase over the same period, across all property types.

Meanwhile, the typical rental value of one-bed lets across 'prime' London has risen by six per cent over the course of 2015 – from £392 to £415 per week – compared to an average of 1.9 per cent across all property types. Within the central area, one-bedroom lets experienced even faster growth of seven per cent

Mr Rollings said: "Prime London lettings activity has seen strident start-of-year growth, especially in the prime central area. This can largely be accounted for by the sudden surge in corporate tenancies, after the sector experienced a somewhat flat 2015. Multinational organisations are currently engaged in a large-scale start-of-year talent hunt and so are snapping up the best places to house their brightest new recruits. The rise in the value of one-bed lets and purchase properties indicates supply remains an issue, as developers are still not being sufficiently incentivised to build the homes the capital requires. But with housing already a big issue in the London mayoral election campaign, the Government might be spurred to act on the shortage as we head deeper into 2016."

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Wet Wet West as legends line up for Royal Hospital

ONE of the summer's treats for 20,000 music goers in and around the capital, Live At Chelsea organisers say they are delighted to announce that legendary British band Wet Wet Wet will headline on Saturday, June 18 at the historic home of the Chelsea Pensioners.

The news follows the earlier announcement that seminal British R&B group Simply Red will perform on Sunday, June 19. Having sold over 15 million records worldwide, enjoyed numerous No 1 singles amongst their 30 UK chart hits, 2016 is a particularly significantly year as the band celebrate the 20th anniversary of their classic smash hit album, *Picture This*. Bringing some of their most well known songs to the unique setting of the courtyard of The Royal Hospital Chelsea, expect to hear the classics *Julia Says, Don't Want To Forgive Me Now*, and of course, one of the longest-standing No 1 singles in British chart history, *Love Is All Around*.

As the only concert series staged at this venue, Live At Chelsea is hosted in a fully-seated auditorium in the Royal Hospital Chelsea's central courtyard. The hospital itself was founded by King Charles II in 1682 and is home to the Chelsea Pensioners, 300 retired soldiers.

■ CHELSEA ROCKS: Wet Wet Wet and Simply Red will perform

A portion of the ticket sale proceeds will also go towards funding their care, as well as helping to fund the ongoing maintenance of the Grade I listed site. Tickets, priced from £40, are available at *www.liveatchelsea.com*

To find out how you can help the Royal Hospital Chelsea visit the website: *www.chelsea-pensioners.org.uk*

Cabbies' cycle highway legal move rejected

BY LWN REPORTER
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CABBIES lost a High Court challenge last week which could have disrupted completion of London mayor Boris Johnson's £47 million flagship east-west cycle superhighway.

The Licensed Taxi Drivers Association (LTDA) asked a judge to declare that the continued construction of the segregated cycling route linking Westbourne Grove and Tower Hill via the Victoria Embankment without planning permission "constitutes a breach of planning control".

But Mrs Justice Patterson rejected the application.

Steve McNamara, LTDA's general secretary, accused Mr Johnson of rushing through the scheme as an ill-judged "last hurrah" before he leaves office.

The cabbies say the scheme is causing massive delays in central London because of the amount of road space it is taking up. The LTDA asked the judge at a recent hearing in London to grant a judicial review against Transport for London (TfL) and the mayor to force a reconsideration of the whole project.

TfL is the highway authority for Greater London Authority roads. Its legal team argued that it would be "inappropriate" for the court to make a declaration as it would usurp the powers of local planning authorities.

■ **ANGER: Cabbies objected to cycle highway proposals**

Mark Lowe QC, for the LTDA, said the association had consistently opposed the cycle superhighway on behalf of its 10,000-plus members.

Mr Lowe told the judge that the project had gone ahead without planning permission or an environmental impact assessment (EIA) as required by the EU EIA Directive.

Construction work started around April last year, but he said there was no evidence that the question of whether an EIA or planning permission were needed had been properly considered.

When TfL was asked why permission had not been sought, it described the superhighway as "works of improvement" not requiring permission or an EIA, said Mr Lowe.

He asked the judge to rule that construction of the superhighway was a "development" as defined under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and not exempt from the need for permission, especially as it was likely to give rise to "significant adverse environmental effects".

Dismissing the LTDA case, the judge ruled the TfL did not err in law, "and was not irrational in reaching its conclusion that there was no significant adverse environmental effect from the proposals as a whole".

The judge also declared: "On the evidence before the court, planning permission is not required for phase one of the superhighway as a whole.

"That is not to say that it may not be required for certain minor works within the scheme (that information is not before the court), or that it may not be required for other cycle superhighways or for parts of them in the future. Each scheme will need to be judged on its own facts."

When the legal challenge was first announced, many cyclists threatened on Twitter to withdraw their custom from black cabs, and some said they would use rival Uber instead.

Howard Carter, general counsel at TfL, said: "The east-west cycle superhighway will make London's roads safer for all, particularly cyclists."

The mayor's cycling commissioner Andrew Gilligan said: "Once again, the courts have in the clearest terms upheld our right to improve London for cycling. This is the third legal challenge to TfL-funded cycle schemes to have been dismissed in the last few months.

"It means we can now be confident of finishing the Embankment/Upper Thames Street superhighway on schedule in April, finishing the whole superhighway in summer, and ending the temporary delays that have occurred as a result of the construction works."

Leon Daniels, managing director of TfL Surface Transport, said: "The court agreed with us that planning permission was not required for the construction of the route to date, and dismissed all aspects of the LTDA's claim. Construction continues to progress well and we are working hard to manage areas of temporary congestion around the construction sites."

UNDER THE WESTWAY

Westway Trust Chief Executive Angela McConville reflects on the Mayor of London's new plans for cycling on the motorway

ANY time you spend visiting the Westway estate you'll see cyclists of all ages using the car-free areas as a safe and quick way to get around, there are always a great many bikes locked up outside the two sports and fitness buildings, Bikeworks, a tenant on site, fixes and maintains bikes on a daily basis and BMXers make good use of the skate park at Bay 66.

It's clear cycling is already a big part of life under the Westway but new proposals mean it could become a bigger part of life above us as well.

There has been a lot of discussion about the East-West Cycle Superhighway proposed by Transport for London (TfL). The route would run from Acton to Paddington, including a completely segregated stretch of the Westway flyover. According to TfL this would 'provide a clearer and safer route for cyclists through west London, separated from other vehicles.'

London has seen a considerable cycling boom in recent years and large parts of London have, or will soon have, new infrastructure to make cycling a normal part of the way we get around the city.

As I said in my column last week, pollution from the Westway is a key issue for people in the area and a new cycle path here might get some motor traffic off the road reducing both air and noise pollution. It would also give people who live and work in the area an alternative way to get to and from the area.

How the route would be linked to the local area is not included in the plans and this is something that will need to be addressed. It's not good enough that local cyclists would have to use busy roads and junctions to join the links to other parts of London and there is much happening under the Westway that cyclists might miss if they cannot easily get on/ off the Cycle Superhighway.

There is the potential for this new infrastructure to reach a million cyclists and that could bring new audiences into the area to buy things in our shops and at the market, experience the culture of the area or use the sports facilities.

The quality of the routes created so far has been high so that gives me some confidence in the ability of TfL to create a useful network here, but we need to see the detail. I would hope that bringing a Cycle Superhighway to the area will be accompanied by additional cycling infrastructure throughout the area.

We already see many cyclists using paths through the Westway estate. I hope that, as we continue to make the estate more accessible, we find ways to make better infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians.

The plans have received tentative support from Mayoral candidates Sadiq Khan and Zac Goldsmith as well as many businesses and environmental and cycling campaign organisations. It is clearly an important topic not just in London, but also locally. I have already heard from local politicians, residents and local cycling campaigners who want to express their views to us.

Westway Trust will be making a submission to the consultation and raising the issue in meetings with TfL so we'd like to know what you'd like us to say. Is a Cycle Superhighway on the Westway a good idea? What cycling infrastructure would help you get around? How could cyclists be encouraged to visit local shops and the market?

Will Hoyles in our team is collecting views of local people. If you have an opinion and would like to share it with us please contact Will on *will.hoyles@westway.org*. We look forward to hearing from you.

Mayor feels the heat over solar energy

BY LWN REPORTER
editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

ANXIOUS London Assembly members have called on the mayor to do more to support the capital's renewable energy industry.

They want Boris Johnson to again lobby the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change to meet with a cross-party delegation of Assembly Members. A motion was agreed which calls on the mayor to encourage the Government to prioritise the future sustainability of London's energy supply and its renewables industry.

Murad Qureshi AM, who proposed the motion said: "The mayor should be championing clean energy, not only because of its environmental benefits but because of the jobs that come with it. Instead the industry is falling behind in the capital and costing significant numbers of jobs.

"Not only has the mayor refused to even consider the idea of a London feed-in tariff to boost the solar industry, he now appears to be trying to block London Assembly Members from sharing their views by excluding them from his meeting with the Energy Secretary."

Stephen Knight AM, who seconded the motion said: "London has the potential to become a global leader in the use of solar power, but currently has the lowest amount of installed power capacity of any region in the UK. Turning this situation around is vital to reducing the capital's dependency on fossil fuels and supporting London's renewable energy companies.

"It is time that the Government were asked once again to rethink its damaging decision to cut the solar feed-in tariff, which will undermine the move towards the wider adoption of solar power in London."

The full text of the motion is:

"This Assembly notes the response from the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change to the Chair of the Assembly regarding the cuts to the solar feed-in tariff and the motion passed by the Assembly on 4 November 2015.

"This Assembly believes the decision to press ahead with cuts to the FiT is a short sighted decision which will seriously hamper efforts to make London a global leader on solar power.

"The Assembly further notes:

- The UK is the only member of the G7 to increase fossil fuel subsidies whilst simultaneously attacking the renewables sector
- London has the lowest amount of installed solar power capacity of any region in the UK
- The mayor's statement in the London Infrastructure Plan that there will be "up to a 20 per cent increase in (energy) demand in the capital by 2050"
- Analysis by the Solar Trade Association shows that almost 1,800 jobs have been lost in the UK solar industry, with many thousands more expected to go.

"This Assembly was disappointed the mayor failed to stand up for London by taking forward the Assembly's suggestion of leading a delegation to meet with the Secretary of State. The London Assembly represents the views and interests of over 8.5 million Londoners. The Secretary of State's decision to shun London's democratic institutions by refusing to meet a cross-party delegation of Members and entrepreneurs sends the strongest message possible that the future sustainability of London's energy supply and its renewables industry are a matter of worryingly low priority to the Government.

"Although the Government has made its decision, this Assembly asks that the mayor consider this request again, so to impress on the Secretary of State the likely impact of these changes."

■ SMILE PLEASE: A visitor takes a picture of a photograph of Diana, Princess of Wales by Patrick Demarchelier, 1990, during a press view of *Vogue 100: A Century of Style* at the National Portrait Gallery in St Martin's Place on Wednesday Photo: Anthony Devlin/PA Wire

Met chief announces review of sex abuse cases

AN independent review is to scrutinise controversial historical sex abuse investigations such as the probe set up to examine claims of a VIP paedophile ring in Westminster.

Under-pressure Scotland Yard chief Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe this week called in former High Court judge Sir Richard Henriques to examine a number of investigations involving non-recent sexual claims against public figures.

The Met has faced heavy criticism over one investigation, known as Operation Midland, which saw the home of 92-year-old Lord Bramall raided before the case was eventually abandoned.

Sir Bernard's announcement came amid conjecture about if and for how long his contract as Metropolitan Police Commissioner will be renewed.

He said: "We are not afraid to learn how we can do these things better, and that's why I've announced the review into how we have conducted investigations into non-recent sexual allegations involving public figures. I am pleased that Sir Richard brings an independent legal mind to advise us whether we can provide a better balance between our duty to investigate and the interests of suspects, complainants and victims."

Key findings of the review will be published later in the year, although the full report will remain confidential.

An Independent Inquiry into Child Sex Abuse is already being led by Justice Lowell Goddard, and is expected to cost £18 million in its first year, but Sir Bernard said this probe will look at police procedure, not evidence.

Operation Midland was launched in November 2014 following allegations that boys were sexually abused by a paedophile ring centred around Westminster more than 30 years ago.

There were claims that sex parties were held at the exclusive Dolphin Square apartment block near the Houses of Parliament. The inquiry centred on allegations by a man known as Nick, and was also looking into the alleged murder of three young boys.

Former Tory MP Harvey Proctor, who denied any involvement and claimed he was the victim of a homosexual witch hunt, has been interviewed under caution twice but has not been charged. Former prime minister Edward Heath and ex-home secretary Lord Brittan, both now dead, were also named in connection with the probe. Operation Midland, which had cost £1.8 million as of November last year, has come under intense scrutiny in recent weeks after the Met announced that D-Day veteran Lord Bramall would face no further action over historical child abuse allegations.

The development sparked calls for police to offer an apology to the former armed forces chief and prompted questions over the veracity of Nick's allegations.

Firefighters will support paramedics

FIREFIGHTERS will be called to attend life-threatening medical emergencies as part of a plan to support stretched ambulance crews and cut response times in south London, *writes Jack Dixon.*

A trial in Lambeth, Wandsworth and Merton will involve firefighters attending around 30 'red calls' a week. During the four-month trial, fire crews will be sent to heart attacks and other serious medical incidents alongside paramedics.

They already carry defibrillators and are trained to provide immediate emergency care but will now be tasked with providing immediate life support until ambulance crews arrive. The plan is designed to save lives but concerns have been raised that firefighters will be overstretched and stations left short of fire cover.

Keith Nisbet, a Fire Brigades Union representative in Lambeth, warned that response times for fires could increase as a result.

"From our own perspective there is a fear that this is being used to prop up a failing ambulance service," he said.

"The problem arises when you are available for fire cover and you get a call to attend a medical emergency. Then you are looking at other stations to cover your ground, which means attendance times are going to increase."

The London Fire Brigade and London Ambulance Service are expected to launch the trial next week.

The FBU, which had previously banned its members from the practice of 'co-responding' and voiced concerns about the level of training for firefighters, has now agreed to go ahead with the trial.

Asked about the concerns over fire cover, an LFB spokesman said the trial would not affect crews' ability to attend fire incidents.

Artist draws a blank

ARTIST Tracey Emin's plans to knock down a listed 1920s building and put up a modern five-storey space for her to live and work look set to be thrown out by planners.

The Turner Prize nominee's proposal to Tower Hamlets council in July to demolish a building in Spitalfields, London, and replace it with a large house connected to her studio drew opposition from conservationists, residents and local heritage groups.

Planning officers, who have now studied the artist's plans in detail, said that although they felt the proposed new design by David Chipperfield Architects, had considerable architectural merit it was not exceptional enough to overcome the loss of the existing building.

In a report to the development committee they recommended that her plans should be rejected.

Red carpet treat for youngsters

HUNDREDS of pupils descended on the Odeon in Leicester Square for an exclusive screening of the *Minions* movie last week.

The event was organised by Variety, the Children's Charity, as part of its Great Days Out programme, which helps sick, disabled and disadvantaged children make the most of their childhood by taking them on memorable days out.

Variety Great Days Out, formerly known as Variety at Work, celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Since its inception in 1966, the programme has taken over two million sick, disabled and disadvantaged children and young people on days out and to exciting events across the country. In celebration, there will be numerous events for children held across the UK throughout this year.

Last week 850 children – many of whom have never been to the cinema – had the opportunity to watch the film and meet characters from the popular *Minions* movie.

The group was drawn from 24 schools across London, Middlesex, Surrey and Buckinghamshire. The Odeon kindly donated its flagship Odeon Leicester Square venue, which is famed for red carpet premieres that have seen the likes of Harrison Ford, Tom Cruise, Emma Watson and Angelina Jolie take centre stage.

Pamela Sinclair, chief barker of Variety, said: "We're absolutely thrilled to host so many children at the one time, to celebrate our 50th Anniversary of Variety Great Days Out. Many of these children will never have been to the cinema and so this is a very important part of our commitment to helping children make the most of their childhoods."

■ RED CARPET TREATMENT: Pupils from London and the Home Counties enjoyed a special screening of the movie Minions at the Odeon's fanmous Leicester Square cinema

Action call on jam-packed Tube trains

THE "alarming" number of Tube delays caused by overcrowding has doubled in the past two years – with the jam-packed Jubilee Line proving to be a nightmare for anyone wanting to get anywhere in a hurry.

An investigation by London Assembly Member and Lib-Dem candidate for London Mayor Caroline Pidgeon has revealed that Underground passengers lost 280,355 hours last year due to Tube overcrowding.

The figures show that the reliability of travelling by Tube is getting worse – as in 2013 the number of lost customer hours due to too many passengers, or not enough trains, was 130,813.

The figures reveal that the best line to catch in order to get anywhere on time is the Metropolitan, which only suffered one incident and 343 lost hours for customers last year. But woe betide anyone hopping on the Jubilee line – where last year there were a frustrating 90 incidents, causing travellers delays and the loss of more than 129,000 hours.

Commenting on the figures she obtained from Mayor of London Boris Johnson, Caroline Pidgeon said: "These figures demonstrate that improvements to the Tube are in some cases not even keeping up with the rising demand for travel created by London's booming population and record number of tourists.

"The delays caused by overcrowding on the Jubilee Line are especially alarming.

"There is a vital need to maintain investment in improving the Tube. However, we also need to go further and consider imaginative policies to manage demand on the Tube.

"A good start would be to encourage more people to start their journeys earlier in the morning by offering half price Tube travel for any journey that starts before 7.30 am. Pressure on the Jubilee Line could also be reduced if a much needed pedestrian and cycling bridge to Canary Wharf to Rotherhithe was built."

But the mayor rebuffed alarm over the "sardine carriages", blaming the problem on too many people wanting to use the Underground.

"Crowding is more often than not a consequence rather than a cause of delays," he said.

Uber snub

BLACK cab drivers in London have rejected an offer from Uber allowing them to use its app to pick up passengers without paying commission.

Uber announced that cabbies will not have to pay a fee for the first year of using their service, with a message that "black cabs and Uber can co-exist". The Uber app allows users to select and pay for a black cab in the same way as a regular Uber car.

But the Licensed Taxi Drivers Association (LTDA) said it would be "amazed" if any drivers take up the offer.

Nursery fee loans proposal could help City Hall staff back to work

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

CITY Hall is pressing for a loan scheme for all new parents on its staff to cover £1,200 nursery fees and help them return to work.

Assembly members say the scheme – which would add to other staff loans for home deposits, travel season tickets, gym membership and renting bicycles – is needed because nursey fees are preventing new parents from going back to their old jobs.

The Assembly is calling on the Mayor of London to introduce childcare payments in the hope that the Greater London Assembly will set an example to other employers in the capital to follow suit.

Last week the Assembly agreed a motion for the GLA to lead the way in reducing the barriers that prevent people from returning to the workplace.

Caroline Pidgeon, who proposed the motion, said: "At present registration fees and one month's deposit to secure a nursery place can result in parents facing over £1,000 before they have even returned to work. These costs can provide a real deterrent to parents, and particularly mothers, who are considering returning to work.

"At a time when London businesses are crying out for skilled workers to fill their vacancies we must find ways to remove any barriers for parents returning to work.

"It is time the Mayor provided an example to London employers by introducing a loan scheme to help Greater London Authority staff with the initial costs of childcare registration. If the initiative was rolled out across London it could make a dramatic change in the opportunities for working parents."

The full text of the motion reads: "This Assembly notes that the cost of childcare is one of the most serious issues facing Londoners.

"With many nurseries charging a registration fee and expecting one month's fees in advance, a parent starting a child at nursery fulltime can expect to pay over £1,200 before they even begin. These initial costs alone can prevent parents from being able to return to work.

"This Assembly believes that the GLA should set an example in its role as an employer and that greater efforts should be made to adopt family friendly employment practices, such as offering more part-time and flexible roles, to ensure that the barriers that many parents face upon returning to the workplace are reduced.

"The Mayor would then be in a position to lobby London businesses to make every effort to assist parents within their workforce, pointing to the GLA as a model of best practice.

"This Assembly further notes that loan schemes already exist for GLA staff for tenancy deposits, travel season tickets, bicycle purchase and gym membership as part of the wider package of staff benefits yet there is no help for parents with the initial costs of childcare. This Assembly therefore calls on the Mayor to establish a loan scheme to help GLA staff with initial costs of childcare registration up to the value of £1,500 and encourage the rest of the GLA group and other city employers to take similar steps to ensure they fully support employees with caring responsibilities."

ROYAL LONDON

Fabulous Windsor Boys say:

NOW the fun is going to start. Buckingham Palace has announced that the royal family's principal funsters – Prince William and Prince Harry – have joined the team organising The Queen's big day as joint-presidents of The Patron's Lunch and her other birthday celebrations.

The lunch, at which 10,000 people will sit down in the Mall for a picnic with The Queen to mark her 90th birthday on June 12, was previously been planned only by her other grandson, Peter Phillips, *writes Geoff Baker.*

But now with the Fabulous Windsor Boys on board, the party is set to swing and it is hoped that they will inspire communities across London to dream up best of British ideas for how to turn not just the Sunday picnic but the whole of summer into a fun-filled celebration of Her Majesty's 90 years.

The current plan is for towns, villages and communities across the nation to hold their own street parties and get-togethers in tandem with The Patron's Lunch.

But the new thinking is, we can do better than that. This is Britain, the birthplace of global ingenuity, so let's put our collectively-brilliant minds to work to come out with imaginative ways of marking the most special birthday of the longest-reigning monarch of all time.

Besides the two young princes, Prince Charles, the Duchess of Cambridge and other royals are joining the big birthday project and the Government has got onboard too.

■ **ANNIVERSARY SALUTE: The Queen will celebrate her 90th birthday in April – and the nation is planning quite a party**

The Communities Minister Greg Clarke has been instructed by the Cabinet to whip up birthday fever and his department is now mobilising to remove councils' red tape that could stand in the way of roads being closed for street parties and bands playing music at local celebrations.

"The Queen's 90th birthday is a truly national event and provides a great chance for all of us to reflect on the extraordinary service her Majesty has given this country for more than six decades," said Mr Clarke.

"The Patron's Lunch on the Mall will be a fitting way to celebrate this historic milestone – but your community can get involved and honour the Queen through your own street party too. Local people are being invited to run their own street parties and reignite the great British community spirit in honour of Her Majesty.

"There were almost 10,000 applications to councils to hold street parties for the Diamond Jubilee. I want to encourage all councils to once again get behind local people's plans to bring out the bunting by blowing away bureaucracy barriers that could stop anyone holding a street party."

The Department of Communities and Local Government has produced a step-by-step kit for how to get your local party going and the guide is available on its website.

The Department is also working to ensure that the capital and the nation is completely spruced up for The Queen's birthday, with a campaign called Clean For The Queen.

"When The Queen came to the throne litter was not the problem it is today," said a spokesman for the nationwide spring clean.

"Food packaging, plastic bottles, takeaway meals and cigarette butts have all since contributed to a growing menace that affects our wildlife, streets, countryside and sense of pride.

"What better way could we show our gratitude to Her Majesty than to clean up our country? We are calling on individuals, volunteer groups, local council, businesses and school to do their bit and join the Clean For The Queen weekend on March 4, 5 and 6."

Organisations all over the UK are now dreaming up other ideas for how best to mark Her Majesty's birthday. Among them are plans by more than 250 communities to set Britain ablaze, with huge bonfire beacons that will be lit across the land on her actual birthday, April 21 – although, oddly, in the capital only the Tower of London and the boroughs of Barnet and Merton are so far listed as taking part.

At the same time, the royals are rolling up their sleeves to help the celebrations. The Duchess of Cambridge is to give her first-ever solo TV interview for a two-hour ITV film all about The Queen. Kate is to reveal for the first time what it's like living and working with The Queen and how it feels to have Her Majesty as your mother-in-law.

Prince Charles, the Duchess of Cornwall, Prince William, Prince Harry and other royals will also contribute personal insights for the film, which is set to be the royals' most revealing portrait of the boss of the family that they themselves refer to as "The Firm".

"We've been fortunate to have the participation of so many members of the royal family to mark this historic milestone in the life of the Queen," said Nick Kent, executive producer of the project.

"It's a remarkable story of an extraordinary life which in so many ways reflects the changing face of the nation."

Prince Charles's charity, The Prince's Trust, is run-

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we're having a party!

ning – or rather pedalling – with "the 90 theme" by organising a ninety-mile Palace To Palace bike race, in which thousands of cyclists will be invited to take part in the run from Windsor Palace to Buckingham Palace. In keeping with the spirit of the ninety theme, royal watchers have come up with a bunch of other ideas for the birthday celebrations:

■ ***90 goals from 90 teams***. In 2011 Premier League teams scored a record 41 goals on one day. In 1963, the old First Division scored 66 goals on a Saturday. Our modern players can do better than that. For Saturday April 23, the closest match day to The Queen's birthday on April 21, get the FA [of which Prince William is president] to pick 45 games which will be charged with notching up at least 90 goals between them. And if they're not up to it, bring on Geoff Hurst in the closing minutes at West Ham.

■ ***Get the Royal Astronomical Society*** [one of more than 600 organisations of which The Queen is patron] to pull their telescopes out and create two new constellations – because there are currently 88 official constellations in the heavens and if astronomers were to identify two more, one in the shape of an X and one in the shape of a C, it would make 90 – and XC are the Roman numerals for 90.

■ ***Never mind a piffling 40-gun salute***, this is the woman who has set the bar for the most years as monarch in 1,000 years who we're celebrating here, let's have a 90-gun salute in the Park. And put in extra gunpowder.

■ ***Get the nation to vote on the 90 women who have also best-shaped the reign of Elizabeth II.*** Do an exhibition hailing them all at Westminster Hall.

■ ***A 90-overs Test match*** between England and a side made up from the best players of the Commonwealth, with a knighthood for the first man to notch up 90 runs.

■ ***90 amateur golfers*** equipped with just a nine iron and a putter playing off nine tees at the course at St Andrew's each aiming to play the back nine in exactly 90, not less than 90 but exactly 90, and in less than 90 minutes.

■ ***A new £90 coin***. The Royal Mint is producing a new commemorative £5 coin to mark The Queen's birthday but that's boring, let's have a £90 coin.

■ ***Land Rover is one of the official partners of The Patron's Lunch.*** The last of the iconic Land Rover Defenders rolled off the production line last month. So get one back, deck it out with all sorts of special features, upholster the seats in Balmoral Tartan – the tartan which only Her Majesty is permitted to wear – and present it as a special gift for her to drive around her estates in the car she most enjoys.

■ ***A new race for the Epsom Derby*** to celebrate Her Majesty's lifelong love of horse racing. The current Derby is 2,650 yards long. Create a new 'sprint of sprints' over a length of 1,980 yards [90 chains] and call it The Queen Elizabeth 90th Cup. And let her win it – as although her horses have won more than 1,600 races, she has never won The Derby.

■ ***A BBC documentary special – 90 Views Of The Queen***, 90 people [some famous, some not] saying how The Queen has bettered their lives. The BBC is understood to be already working on something like this.

■ ***Another partner of The Patron's Lunch is PG Tips***. They should produce a special commemorative edition, a blend of the finest leaves from nine nations of the Commonwealth and call it Royal Nine Tea.

■ ***A 90-vessel birthday flotilla on the Thames*** – only don't ask Her Majesty or The Duke of Edinburgh to sail in it without hot water bottles as they got chilly the last time a similar flotilla was launched for her diamond jubilee. And don't let the BBC's juvenile commentators to go anyway near it this time.

■ ***The Queen has sat for 139 portraits in her time***. Pick the best 90 and put them on as a special birthday exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery.

■ With the permission of the Duke of Edinburgh, who has a vast private collection, ***an exhibition of the 90 best royal-related cartoons of Her Majesty's reign***. Publish them as a commemorative book, with all profits to the Prince's Trust or some such.

■ ***A 90-gags Royal Variety Performance***. Let's make the Royal Variety show a laugh for a change. It's meant to be a fun evening, not a free showcase for the latest pop band and performing pets. Get our best comedians to tell 90 jokes over 90 minutes.

■ ***Tributes at the Chelsea Flower Show*** of inspired and artistic exhibits of 90 different types of roses, The Queen's favourite flower. Meanwhile, the Government is now thinking on what present to give Her Majesty for her 90th, or – the actual word for it – the nonagintennial occasion of her birth. Traditionally, the official stone for a 90th birthday is either granite or "double sapphire".

■ **PARTY PLANNERS: Princes William and Harry will make the birthday celebrations for their grandmother go with a swing. Inset left: a 'last of the line' iconic Land Rover Defender would make a useful present for Her Majesty**

■ **CELEBRATION IDEAS: Roses, the Queen's favourites, and an exhibition of her best portraits**

Where to see a royal this week

FULL details of events in the ever-busy diaries of the many members of the Royal Family are available from the official website *www.royal.gov.uk* but here's the schedule for the week ahead for Where To See A Royal.

February 16

■ ***The Queen*** will attend the Final Awards Reception for the Gold Service Scholarship at Claridge's, Brook Street.

■ ***The Duke of Cambridge*** will visit the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Diplomatic Academy to mark the first anniversary of the Diplomatic Academy, at King Charles Street SW1.

■ ***The Princess Royal***, as Past Master, the Worshipful Company of Butchers, will attend the Annual City Food Lecture, Guildhall EC2.

February 17

■ ***The Duke of Edinburgh***, as Elder Brother and Past Master, the Corporation of Trinity House, will attend a Younger Brethren Dinner at Trinity House, Tower Hill.

■ ***The Princess Royal***, as Master, the Corporation of Trinity House, will attend the Younger Brethren Guest Night, Trinity House, Trinity Square EC3.

■ ***The Princess Royal***, as President, Riding for the Disabled Association, will open the new Group at Park Lane Stables, Park Lane, Teddington, Middlesex.

■ ***The Princess Royal***, as Patron, the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, will visit the Camden Bureau, Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street.

February 18

■ ***The Duke of Edinburgh***, as Patron, Britain-Australia Society, will hold a Reception to mark the Society's 40th Anniversary, at St. James' Palace.

■ ***The Princess Royal***, as Past Master, the Guild of Freemen of the City of London, will visit the London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre, Mortimer Wheeler House, 46 Eagle Wharf Road N1.

February 22

■ ***The Princess Royal***, as Patron, Scottish Rugby Union, will attend a Friends of Scottish Rugby Dinner at the Caledonian Club, 9 Halkin Street SW1.

February 23

■ ***The Queen*** will visit Crossrail Bond Street, 75 Davies Street W1.

■ ***The Duke of Edinburgh***, as Patron, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, will attend Receptions for young people who have achieved the Gold Standard in the Award, at St James's Palace.

■ ***The Earl of Wessex***, as Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, will visit Terminal 5, London Heathrow Airport, Wayfarer Road, Hounslow to celebrate the Diamond Anniversary.

■ ***The Countess of Wessex***, as Chairman, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Women's Network Forum, will chair a meeting at Shell Headquarters, Shell Centre SE1.

■ ***The Princess Royal***, as Patron, Livability, will attend the Annual Awards Ceremony, Floor 6, 6 Mitre Passage, Peninsula Central SE10.

■ ***The Princess Royal,*** as Chancellor, University of Edinburgh, will hold a Dinner at Buckingham Palace.

Princess Alexandra, as Patron, St Christopher's Hospice, will attend a Reception at the Royal Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly.

Capital nights

EDITED BY GEOFF BAKER

Clarkson turns to fast women

LADS' TV hero Jeremy Clarkson is set to bump Chris Evans in the race to be king of the road by signing fast women for his eagerly-awaited new Amazon car show.

Following the BBC's plan to speed ahead in the TV ratings war by signing *Friends* star Matt LeBlanc as Evans's co-driver for *Top Gear*, Clarkson's team is considering turbo-charging the essential testosterone factor of his show by hiring glamorous women drivers for a regular slot.

Clarkson, who will be presenting his £165 million budget series with his old sidekicks James May and Richard Hammond, is having to dream up new ideas for the motoring programmes because copyright prevents him recreating any of his old *Top Gear* strands.

"All of the previous ingredients – the Stig, the Star in a Reasonably Priced Car and the Cool Wall – belong to the BBC, so we have had to start from scratch," says Clarkson.

"But we have, though. It's going to be all new, new segments, new ideas. Everything is different."

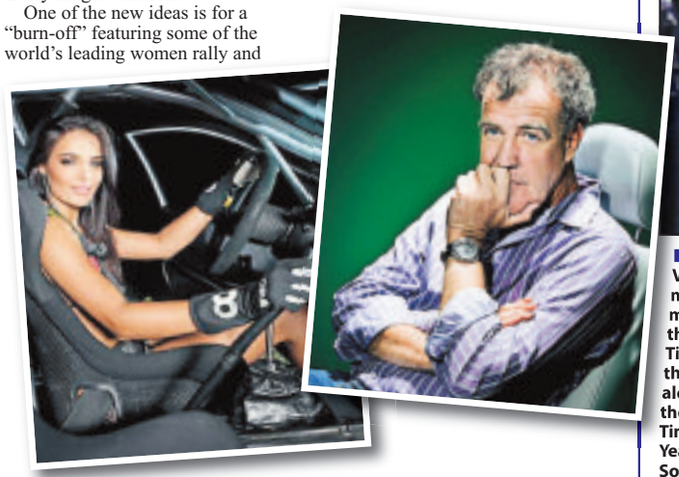
One of the new ideas is for a "burn-off" featuring some of the world's leading women rally and racing drivers and among names in the frame for that are Inessa Tushkanova and Maryeve Dufault.

Inessa is well known to East European readers of *Playboy*, as the rally driver and model has appeared on the covers of its Lithuanian, Ukrainian and Russian editions.

The Ukrainian-born racer is a rising star of the European rally championships and TV executives believe she and the likes of Maryeve, the Canadian driver in the NASCAR stock car racing series, could be just the thing to attract a wider international audience to the new Clarkson show.

They are also rumoured to be considering Milka Duno from Venezuela, a highly-successful driver in the IndyCar Series and Daytona, Danica Patrick, the most successful American woman in open-wheel racing, US drag racer sisters Courtney and Brittany Force.

"These girls are some of the fastest and most accomplished in the world, there certainly wouldn't be any jokes about women drivers if they join Jeremy's new show," said a source.



■ GIRL POWER: Inessa Tushkanova is in the running to join Jeremy Clarkson

Singer songwriter the essential sound of Soho

■ **SOHO SO GOOD: You forgot a Valentine's Day gift? Never mind, make it up with a gift of the week's most romantic new release, *Paris*, the new single from Soho singer-songwriter Tim Arnold. The beautiful and memorable ballad is the chic bookend to Ralph McTell's *Streets Of London* and its YouTube video alone should be enough to bring warm tears of homesick nostalgia to any of the 250,000 French ex-pats currently living in London. *Paris* is taken from Tim's utterly-excellent album *The Soho Hobo*, BBC London's Record Of The Year for 2015 and highly praised by music critics as "the concept album about Soho that Ray Davies never wrote". Out now on iTunes and well worth being in the record collection of anyone with ears on the sides of their head**

WEST Ham's Upton Park is to star in a movie thriller which producers say will be "like *Die Hard* in a soccer stadium".

The movie, *Final Score*, will be filmed at the Hammers' ground at the end of the season, before the club relocates to the 2012 Olympic Stadium. Supporters may be hired as extras for the crowd scenes in the action thriller in which the stadium is seized by a group of heavily armed criminals demanding ransom. An ex-soldier must use all his military skills to save the 35,000 capacity crowd, one of which is the daughter of his fallen comrade.

Producer Marc Goldberg said: "We're thrilled to have the opportunity to film in this unique and legendary location. We have a stellar team looking to deliver a £20 million non-stop action, world class film with a one-off unique opportunity to utilise an iconic stadium before it's demolished. Imagine *Die Hard* in a soccer stadium."

■ **CENTURION: John Malkovich**

HERE'S a good way to avoid barbed reviews from the critics – make a movie but don't let anyone see it for 100 years.

That's what John Malkovich has done with his new film *100 Years: The Movie You Will Never See*, launched in Soho last week with sponsorship promotion from Louis XIII cognac, which at £1,999 from Selfridges probably makes it the brandy you will never drink.

It is not known what role Malkovich plays in the film, nor what the plot is about, nor much anything else other than that it imagines what the world will be like in 100 years' time. The film, along with a decanter of the luxury cognac, which coincidentally takes 100 years to make, has been placed inside a safe which will open automatically just in time for the movie's premiere in 2115.

Hammersmith anticipates Hawley's hymn to the hills

JOURNEYMAN songwriter Richard Hawley's latest album may be a hymn to the rolling hills around his hometown of Sheffield but fans in the capital will no doubt be whisked away when he returns to the Hammersmith Apollo next week.

The flagbearer for an unlikely 'crooner revival', Hawley's vintage rock 'n' roll style and rich, world-weary drawl have kept a hardcore following fixed for well over a decade.

His well-received seventh album, *Hollow Meadows*, includes a carousel of sweetly subtle rock ballads characteristic of Hawley's well-rehearsed rough-round-the-edges appeal.

A throwback to late-1950s guitar heroes Duane Eddy and Hank Marvin, the familiar pluck and twang is recognisable on all of Hawley's records.

With fellow Sheffield sons the Arctic Monkeys – who famously lauded Hawley's album *Coles Corner* when accepting their Mercury Prize award in 2006 – counted among his biggest fans, the 49-year-old is fast approaching national treasure status.

But like all great underdogs, Hawley is never one for melodrama.

"I became a musician to avoid having a career," he says of his early adventures in the business. "It was just: 'I'm not going down t'pit and I'm not going down t'steel works'. Maybe I can write a few tunes, play a few pubs and I won't have to do any actual work."

■ Richard Hawley is performing at the Eventim Apollo in Hammersmith on Tuesday February 23.

■ **UNDERDOG: Richard Hawley**

BY NICKY SWEETLAND AND JACK DIXON ● EDITED BY GEOFF BAKER

SERENA Morton's Ladbroke Grove gallery is among those leading a new wave of Seventies New York nostalgia which is now exploding worldwide with the start of Chelsea resident Sir Mick Jagger's TV series, *Vinyl*.

The drama, created and produced by Sir Mick and set within the murky world of the record business in 1970s New York, started screening this week in the USA, Australia and on Sky Atlantic in the UK.

The 10-part series stars Sir Mick's son James, acting opposite Hammersmith-born Juno Temple as Kip Stevens, lead singer of an early punk band called The Nasty Bits. *Vinyl* is set for huge success because not only is it airing across America on the mighty and influential HBO channel but it is also at the forefront of a host of shows celebrating the Big Apple in the Seventies.

Besides *Vinyl*, at least five other 1970s New York-based dramas are shortly to hit our screens and the fashion industry is expected to reflect the revival with this autumn/winter season's look being all about loon jeans, hot pants, huge sideburns and Afghan coats.

Cannily, Serena Morton has anticipated the new TV trend and fashion with the exhibition of *Disco*, photographs from the book by top lensman Bill Bernstein, who uniquely recorded the New York disco scene of the Seventies when he was in Manhattan at the time when it became the epicentre of the poser-dominated movement at legendary clubs like Studio 54, a favourite at the time of Sir Mick, Andy Warhol, Debbie Harry, Grace Jones, Al Pacino, David Bowie, Truman Capote, Brooke Shields and Elton John – and where Bianca Jagger once caused a sensation by posing on a white horse led by a naked man.

■ **VINYL LINE-UP: Pictured left to right are Mackenzie Meehan, Emily Tremaine, Jack Quaid, Juno Temple, Ray Romano, Bobby Cannavale, J.C. Mackenzie, Max Casella, Griffin Newman, P.J. Byrne** Picture courtesy of HBO

Although the *Disco* exhibition closed last week after a six-week run, it was extremely well-attended and with Bernstein's book selling fast to jet set and art veterans of the era, it can only be a matter of a short time before TV executives pick up the rights in order to base yet another Seventies drama on the life of the night captured in Bernstein's stunning photography taken on the disco floor.

As Horse Meat Disco DJ James Hillard writes in the book's foreword, "These shots capture the very essence of what going out was, is, and should be, all about. They showed the true democracy of the dance floor where anyone could be a star, as long as they had the right attitude and flair. The pictures in this book are a document of an incredibly exciting and creative time, not only in music, but also in social, political and fashion history too."

Here's betting ten bucks that *Disco* follows *Vinyl* as a new TV drama. Good to see West London influencing the New York scene and TV trends.

■ **SHOWCASE: Serena Morton anticipated the new 70s TV trend and fashion with the exhibition of Disco, photographs from the book by top lensman Bill Bernstein**

FANCY sharing a gig with Jamie Cullum? The Grammy-winning jazz singer is looking for newcomers to star alongside him to a crowd of 5,000 at this summer's Greenwich Music Time, *writes Nicky Sweetland.*

Besides headlining the closing night of the concert series, which runs from July 5 to 10, Cullum will handpick a selection of some the most hotly-tipped young artists on the music scene – with a particular emphasis on those recently championed on his BBC Radio 2 show – who will perform at the world heritage-listed Old Royal Naval College.

The first two artists lined-up to perform are the hotly-tipped Jacob Collier and Andreya Triana.

One of the breakout stars of 2015, Triana was hailed by *The Independent* as "every inch a star", and the phenomenally-talented multi-instrumentalist Collier, whose YouTube videos have been watched by millions, was recently described by his mentor Quincy Jones as "one of my favourite young artists on the planet. Absolutely mind-blowing."

■ **RISING MUSICAL STARS: Andreya Triana and Jacob Collier**

Cullum said: "I'm pleased to have been given the opportunity to continue the work we do at Radio 2 in championing incredible up-and-coming talent and there are no two artists more worthy of this support than Jacob Collier and Andreya Triana.

"Both of them completely blew me away when I first heard them – they are sonically contrasting but equally brilliant and unique."

A little bird tells me that wannabes keen to impress Jamie with their demos might want to send them to his management, AirMTM at The Shepherds Building, Rockley Road W14 ODA.

For more information on the gigs go to *www.greenwichmusictime.co.uk*

Fearless Goulding 'scared' of Grammy awards gig

ELLIE GOULDING has said she is scared at the prospect of singing at the Grammy Awards because "America is just a whole other game".

The west London resident singer will perform alongside some of the biggest music stars in the world on the show which last year was watched live by 25 million people.

She joins Adele, Rihanna, Justin Bieber, Lady Gaga, Taylor Swift and The Weekend on this year's line-up. Goulding is nominated for best pop solo performance for her *50 Shades Of Grey* soundtrack hit *Love Me Like You Do*.

Speaking to Lorraine Kelly on ITV's *Lorraine*, she said: "It's the first time I've been nominated. I've been before and it's an amazing night, but this year I'm also performing, so it's quite scary.

"America is just a whole other game with music. I'm going out there in a few days and it's going to be a hectic week. But they have parties and stuff, so I'm sure it will be balanced out."

On the prospect of performing for the music industry rather than fans, she said: "It is scary in that respect.

"But I want to prove myself, and sing a song that I'm so proud of, and so proud to sing and perform – so I'm looking forward to it."

Goulding, *pictured*, is not afraid to push herself – and her views – forward. She recently tweeted her frustration at policies by Hackney council to cut down on people sleeping rough, saying that the growing number of homeless people in London was "shameful".

"Now Chelsea and Kensington council have told people not to give food or money to homeless people because they say the money will fund something it shouldn't, but actually that's just the act of kindness, the communication that could save someone's life. It's a ridiculous campaign and I completely condemn it."

Monkey business

PAUL Weller and Noel Gallagher to join The Monkees? Now there's a question that we fans of Britpop never expected to be ever asking, but apparently the Modfather and his Modson have come together to write a new song for an upcoming album for what remains of the Sixties TV bubblegum band.

Rolling Stone has confirmed that Weller and Gallagher have paired up to compose a track for *Good Times!*, the summer release to mark the 50th anniversary in June of the band now represented by Micky Dolenz and Peter Tork. Hey Hey It's My Wonderwall.

Pharmacy a 'pillar of the community'

BY JACK DIXON
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

A FAMILY-RUN pharmacy in Shepherd's Bush has been named the best in the UK by industry experts.

The Bush Pharmacy, in Uxbridge Road, made it third time lucky to win the Best Independent Community Pharmacy prize at the SMART awards, having twice finished as runner-up at big industry events.

Co-manager Sailesh Pindolia, whose father Kishor set up the business 30 years ago, collected the prestigious award at the ceremony in Birmingham last week.

He paid tribute to the hard work and dedication shown by long-serving members of his staff.

"Everything we achieve starts with our staff," he said. "We have had the same people here for a long time so they know their patients.

"Every day we see a unique problem and it keeps us on our toes. Shepherd's Bush is an entertaining place to work too, so they never get bored!"

■ **CELEBRATION: Sailesh Pindolia accepts the award**

Sailesh joined the pharmacy eight years ago and the father-and-son team now share management duties.

The popular pharmacy had previously put itself forward for two big industry awards, finishing as runners-up on both occasions.

They had decided not to apply again but were surprised to be nominated by a representative from the SMART awards who visited the pharmacy last year.

The team was praised for its range of services and close ties to the community.

Mr Pindolia added: "There are people doing some really great stuff all over the country and it is hard to even get shortlisted. To win the award you need a bit of extra magic.

"It was great to rub shoulders with the big players in the industry. That was quite humbling in itself, but for us to win was the icing on the cake and the cherry as well."

Mr Pindolia said he encouraged staff to develop relationships with their patients and that the pharmacy had become like a "pillar in the community".

"We do not want to be a run of the mill pharmacy - I know we are better than that," he said.

"The door is always open here. We develop a lot of relationships with patients and because of that they come back. It's like a pleasure for us."

Chris Higgins, who has been a customer at the pharmacy for 14 years, said the award was well-deserved.

"I was suffering with a knee injury after damaging my cruciate ligaments but with their help I made a full recovery.

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■ **CELEBRATION: London Transport Museum has launched four new posters and limited edition prints that celebrate the heritage of the Undergound, created by artist Virginie Morgand. To view all four posters and others, visit the museum, in Covent Garden Piazza, WC2E 7BB, phone 0207 565 7295, email shopping@ltmuseum.co.uk or visit the museum's website, www.ltmuseumshop.co.uk**

Win! Brand new album by Lee Mead

STAR of stage and screen Lee Mead will once again bring some enchantment to Chelsea next month as he launches his new album with a two-night residency at The Pheasantry on the King's Road.

Entitled *Some Enchanted Evening*, the album follows a mini tour of the same title which the singer completed last year and boasts some reimagined takes on classic musical songs from yesteryear.

Mead, who won the BBC1 talent search to find the leading man for the revival of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* in 2007, will be playing at the west London venue from March 4 to 6.

The album is set to be released on February 26 and we have three copies to give away to some lucky readers.

If you would like to be in with a chance of winning, simply send an email with **LEE MEAD COMP** as the subject heading along with your name, address and phone number to the following email address: *competitions@londonweeklynews.co.uk* Closing date for entries is midnight on February 20.

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■ There is no cash alternative to the prize stated, and the prizes are non-transferable.
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■ The promoter's decision is final and binding. No correspondence will be entered into.
■ The prize detailed is for that CD only and is not transferable.
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Talk of the town

Sam gets inside job

FORMER prison warder and *X Factor* winner Sam Bailey will draw upon all of her 'inside' knowledge next week when she takes to the stage to play the role of Matron Mama Morton in *Chicago*.

The singer, who just last year showcased her musical theatre capabilities in a special one-night-only concert at the Lyric Theatre, takes on the part of the wily guard in the nationwide tour which comes to the New Wimbledon Theatre from the February 22 to 27, *writes Nicky Sweetland.*

Bailey won ITV's prime time talent show back in 2013 and is known for her powerhouse vocals, which she hopes will perfectly fit into her new musical theatre setting.

She told me: "Hopefully this is one of many shows that I'll do; reputable shows. The plan is to keep building up my musical theatre repertoire and just carry on going and enjoying it."

Bailey has always been a big fan of musicals, which is why she has worked so hard to hone her talents in readiness for her theatrical debut. Although she would cite *Les Miserables* as being ultimately her favourite, the star has loved getting better acquainted with the Kander and Ebb classic show based in the American prohibition-era.

"I didn't know the truth behind the show, which was quite interesting to find out. I'd been to see Chicago in the early 2000s. It's an incredible show and my goodness the dancing and all the staging is so clever, it really is."

Bailey's character was portrayed by hip hop superstar Queen Latifah in the 2002 Academy Award-winning film version, which also starred Catherine Zeta-Jones, Renée Zellweger and Richard Gere. Her main theme tune, *When You're Good to Mama*, suits the earthiness of Sam's vocals although the former jail attendant is keen to assure people that the entertaining dramatisation is a far cry from the reality of prison life.

"Mama Morton's a game player, she's a businesswoman. Her role in the prison is obviously to keep the girls locked up, but at the same time she's making money, so she's pulling lots of favours in. She's doing favours for people and earning money in the process, so it's nowhere near what prison's like now. But it's so interesting to learn about how Chicago was in the 1920s."

The musical is based on a play of the same name by Maureen Dallas Watkins, a reporter who wrote about the colourful criminals she came across as part of her journalistic career. Sam has found the history behind the story an important part of forming her characterisation.

"It was a true story about a woman who was a reporter called Mary. She wrote a diary of all the different passionate murders and trials that went on in the court room."

The West End revival of *Chicago* ran for nearly 15 years and Sam attributes much of the show's success to the fabulously memorable score, which includes the famous standards *All That Jazz, Cell Block Tango* and *Roxie*.

"The music is so important in *Chicago.* It's almost like it's another character. In most musicals it's all about the voices and the colours but *Chicago* is pretty much a black box. It's all about the music, the dancing, the performing and the timing."

Bailey will be joined on stage by *Celebrity Big Brother* house mate John Partridge, who plays the suave lawyer Billy Flynn. Partridge reached the final of the Channel Five TV show and so has missed a large chunk of the rehearsal process.

Sam laughs and tells me: "He has loads of catching up to do!"

Chicago runs at the New Wimbledon Theatre from the February 22 to 27. For more details you can visit the website *atgtickets.com*

■ GRIPPING STUFF: John Partridge, Hayley Tamaddon and Sam Bailey star in Chicago

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Stage set for Tricyle takeover

THE Tricycle Theatre in Kilburn is to host more than 50 events, screenings, performances and masterclasses across a two-week period.

During the Tricycle Takeover, 500 young people aged 11 to 25 from across London will play pivotal roles at the venue, working backstage, in producing, marketing and performing, to deliver events across the building. All of the work produced by the Tricycle Young Company is set to respond to the theme of 'paradise'.

Headlining Takeover 2016 is *Bred*, a new play running from March 17 to 19, created by the 15–18s Tricycle Young Company. The Young Company have devised a play exploring how teenagers talk about sex, the history of the perception of sex and interviews with their parents.

The 19-25s Tricycle Young Company present *Switch*, a promenade performance taking place throughout the theatre with audiences recast as citizens of a broken future.

The Tricycle once again hosts National Theatre Connections, celebrating its 20th year. To mark the anniversary, the Tricycle, in partnership with StageText, will be increasing access to the plays by captioning every single NT Connections performance, to enable deaf or hard of hearing audiences to access the plays.

Takeover 2016 also features a range of cinema, DJ sets and debates, including a discussion entitled *Diverse Decision Makers* on March 17 in which a panel of young backstage staff, creatives and office staff will discuss underrepresentation in the arts and their experiences working in the industry.

Takeover will also feature masterclasses from a number of industry professionals, including: David Ajala, James Graham, Gbolahan Obisesan and Simon Mole.

As a celebration of 10 years of the Tricycle Theatre's Minding The Gap project, 180 young migrants and refugees will be performing on stage as part of the takeover festival. This term's participants have been working with theatre practitioners to explore themes and characters from Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* to develop their own short plays. The participants, all of whom have recently arrived in the UK, are drawn from three Brent secondary schools and attend weekly drama sessions at the Tricycle to support their English language studies.

Another Tricycle first will be the introduction of Ticket to Paradise. For just £20 the Ticket to Paradise is an unlimited access pass to the huge array of amazing theatre, events and masterclasses on offer in Takeover 2016.

Talk of the town

BY NICKY SWEETLAND

ONE of the most hotly anticipated shows to open this year is the Broadway transfer of *Motown the Musical.*

The show, which opens in March, follows the legendary career of Berry Gordy and the creation of his musical empire, Motown Records.

The show is based on Gordy's 1994 autobiography *To Be Loved: The Music, the Magic, the Memories of Motown*, and premiered on Broadway in 2013 to critical acclaim receiving four Tony nominations, *writes Nicky Sweetland.*

Producers of the London premiere will hoping for the same response and with a cast hand picked by Gordy himself, and a plethora of hugely popular hit songs, Motown the musical is set to be a popular choice with theatre goers this year.

Clapham resident Cedric Neal takes the leading role of Berry Gordy when it opens at the Shaftesbury Theatre and he told me how the rehearsals have been going.

"The rehearsals could not be going any better. The bond that is known as the Motown family bond has already been formed with the entire cast. It's one of those experiences that comes very few times within a lifetime. Everyone's on the same page and shooting towards the same goal."

Berry Gordy founded the Motown record label back in 1959 and is credited with changing the shape of the music industry both in America and across the rest of the world. Neal, who was born in Dallas, grew up with Motown and is extremely passionate and knowledgeable about the style of music which launched the careers of the likes of Michael Jackson, The Temptations and the Supremes, to name but a few.

Cedric says: "It introduced what's called cross over to the world of music where black artists, who at the time were recording what was known as race music, were introduced to white audiences and accepted by white audiences and on pop stations.

"It introduced us to iconic superstars like Michael Jackson, The Jackson Five, Dianna Ross, The Supremes, Smokey Robinson and the Miracles, Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder, Martha Reeves and The Vandellas – and it just tells a story about a young black man in Detroit, Michigan, who wanted to make people as happy as his childhood idol did – who was Joe Louis – and he decided to do it to music."

Playing such a legend of the music industry must be a frightening prospect but Cedric feels his is a slightly easier burden than some of his co-stars.

"It's a daunting task but it's a task made comfortable by the fact that he (Gordy) is so involved and is still as excited about his story being told as the first day when they started workshops on Broadway six years ago.

"My co-star Lucy St Louis is weighted with not only playing a living legend but one that is recognisable for her sound and her look. Although I'm playing a living legend, I don't have the weight that she has because not many people know his tendencies or his habits so I can get away with artistic licence in how I portray Mr Gordy on stage."

With over 40 classic songs such as *My Girl, What's Going On, Dancing in the Street, I Heard It Through The Grapevine* and *Ain't No Mountain High Enough*, this explosive event is the next chapter of Motown's incredible history, but one that has been a part of Cedric's life and has influenced him throughout his career.

"It's just something that has affected my sound as I was growing up. One of my favourite singers of all time is David Ruffin, the lead singer of The Temptations. When I got my first pair of glasses I had to get these black horn-rimmed glasses because that's what David Ruffin had.

"When I moved to New York from Texas I quickly became known as the soulful man from Texas because my sound was so influenced by Motown artists like Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder."

Motown opens at the Shaftesbury Theatre on March 8. For more details visit the website *motownthemusical.co.uk*

■ **BROTHER, WHAT SHOW: The Jackson Five, as portrayed in Motown the Musical** Picture: Joan Marcus

Sensational story of the soundtrack to our lives

Kerry agrees festival date

THE 'First Lady of the West End' is to sing at Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod.

Organisers of the festival have signed up Kerry Ellis, who has starred in smash-hit musicals in the West End and Broadway in New York and is a long-term collaborator of Queen guitarist Brian May.

She will be topping the bill in the Voices of Musical Theatre concert on Wednesday, July 6, when she'll be sharing the stage with *Britain's Got Talent* winners Collabro, the classical and musical theatre boy band.

Kerry, 36, made her name in productions like *Wicked, Cats, Les Misérables, My Fair Lady* and *We Will Rock You*.

She is the latest top name to be announced for the landmark 70th festival. Classical singer Katherine Jenkins will raise the curtain on Tuesday, July 5.

Talk of the town

I Loved Lucy *****

I DON'T come to the new play at the Jermyn Street Theatre as an impartial observer.

In fact, I've been excited about watching it from the moment it was announced that the intimate venue would put on Lee Tannen's affectionate tribute to the legendary Lucille Ball, *writes Nicky Sweetland.*

Ball was one of the most recognisable figures of American television and her *I Love Lucy* sitcom was watched by 40 million viewers per year at the height of its popularity. I watched the black and white re-runs of the show as a child and have always had a real admiration for the star who had the most impeccable comic timing and lovable onscreen persona.

This play is based on Tannen's best-selling memoirs and follows the writer's relationship with Ball over the last ten years of her life when much of her time was spent shunning the limelight and indulging her obsession for the game of back gammon.

Matthew Bunn plays Tannen, a slightly geeky and awkward writer whose admiration for the icon turns into a once-in-a-lifetime friendship. Bunn is adorable as the enthused young author and perfectly conveys both his love for the TV star and the complicated and very special relationship which develops when a fan becomes a friend.

FRIENDS: Sandra Dickinson and Matthew Bunn star in I Loved Lucy at theJermyn Street Theatre Picture: Scott Rylander

Sandra Dickinson shines as Ball, with a wonderfully gregarious and yet somewhat vulnerable portrayal of a falling star.

Together the pair establish the perfect on-stage chemistry and make the audience feel like a fly on the wall witnessing a unique and intimate collaboration.

An intriguing and lovely portrait of the Hollywood megastar, this is a must-see for fans but also for anyone who wants to enjoy a funny but touching story of friendship.

The End of Longing *****

MATTHEW Perry, the star of the hit TV show *Friends,* made his return to the London stage last week in his self-penned play *The End of Longing*.

The play marks Perry's writing debut and although it is not meant as an autobiographical piece, it has obvious reflections of the actor's somewhat troubled past, *writes Nicky Sweetland.*

There are parallels with the American TV show which made Perry a household name, with the same charming quips and slick changes between character plots.

The simply awesome stage design by Anna Fleischie also helps to facilitate a big impact – giving the play a Hollywood feel – and although there are some very American references which may be lost on some, the story is still relevant within most friendship circles.

Perry plays a pessimistic alcoholic in a story which follows two sets of friends, who after meeting at a bar, couple up and become intwined in a tale of love and companionship. A brutally honest insight into a life as – or with – a drunk, this play will resonate with many as Perry encapsulates the torment of addiction, with all of the aspects of denial and depression wonderfully and painfully portrayed both within the script and during the star's performance.

His muse, Stephanie, is played with suave expertise by Jennifer Mudge, who pitches the frustrations of those mired within one of life's hidden professions with absolute aplomb and yet still maintains the timing necessary to keep the dialogue light and amusing.

FRIENDS: Left to right, Christina Cole (Stevie), Lloyd Owen (Joseph), Matthew Perry (Jack) and Jennifer Mudge (Stephanie) star in The End Of Longing, being staged at the Playhouse Theatre Picture: Helen Maybanks

Lloyd Owen as the lovable hulking dim-wit Joseph is the perfect antidote to Christina Coles' neurotic Stevie, who spends much of the show ranting before eventually giving in to the wiles of the gentle giant.

Laugh out loud funny but with a big conscience, *The End of Longing* takes you to the very extremes of human emotions and is an impressive piece of theatre which I would highly recommend.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: Jennifer Mudge (Stephanie) and Matthew Perry (Jack) in The End Of Longing, at the Playhouse Theatre Picture: Helen Maybanks

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WINE & DINE

The food and drink page for West London

Back on screens with her new Foolproof Cooking series, Mary Berry's year has started as it means to go on – busily. She tells *Kate Whiting* **about her verdict on spiralizers, doing Paul Hollywood's ironing and plans to escape to the coast**

IN 45 years of writing cookery books, Mary Berry has seen many a newfangled device bid for a permanent space on her spotless worktops. But the latest one – the spiralizer – hasn't passed the all-important Berry test.

"Everybody said, 'What about these spiralizers, what are they like?' So I brought several in and tried them and then used them in the programme, just because people are talking about them and they want to see people like me using them," says the 80-year-old, referring to her new show, *Mary Berry's Foolproof Cooking.*

"I think it's quite fun, if you want something light that spins the vegetables out and looks attractive," she adds, before concluding: "I expect it'll be something here today and gone tomorrow."

Incidentally, she's not much of a fan of 'superfood' veg kale either, calling it "strong and bitter".

She's certainly earned the right to express an opinion, with yet another cookbook now added to her ever-expanding collection.

The one that accompanies the BBC Two series takes her total to "about 70", all kept in what one can only imagine is a very sturdy bookcase in her immaculate Buckinghamshire home.

"I can never remember which recipe is in which book," she admits, although she does refer back to them for her favourite dishes.

The idea for *Foolproof Cooking* came from her love of helping budding chefs nail even the smallest details in the kitchen.

"I wanted to give every possible detail with the recipes, so I included tips all the way through the book," she explains. "So in every recipe, it says, 'Mary's foolproof tip'. Like, it's important to use smoked paprika rather than the hot variety, which has more chilli powder in it and can make [a dish] too hot."

■ **PERFECT DISH: Mary Berry enthuses over foolproof cooking**

The series so far has seen the *Great British Bake Off* judge visit a garlic farm and go lobster fishing on the Isle of Wight, dine at London restaurant Rules to see how they make their famous Beef Wellington – and then recreate her own version at home ("Mine's much easier") – as well as catching crayfish in Oxfordshire.

"I've always liked fishing, but I enjoyed catching crayfish with an expert. It's such a privilege to talk to experts, so they can give me tips on how to do it."

In her series last year, *Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites*, 'Granny Cocoa', as she's affectionately known in her family, cooked on screen with her grandchildren – including twins Abby and Grace, who make an appearance this time round too, helping her with a chicken and bacon lattice pie, while her younger grandsons crop up to create cranberry and coconut energy bars.

"They love cooking," she says warmly, "they don't think about it as being on television. They just think it's a fun day to do things."

A wartime baby, Berry grew up in Bath and had a housewife mum who cooked everything from scratch. She studied at Le Cordon Bleu in Paris in her early 20s, but was "lonely" living in a hostel in the city of love. She married husband Paul in 1966 and had three children, Thomas and Annabel, and William, who tragically died aged just 19.

"I'm very lucky to have family and there's nothing better than cooking with children – there's no happier way of keeping children amused than teaching them," she says with a smile.

With busy family and work commitments, it's amazing Berry even gets a minute to sit down and eat, let alone make dinner for anyone else. But her mantra, as she reveals in the series, is "get organised, and try and do things ahead".

To demonstrate, she tells me about her upcoming weekend plans: "We've got a lot of people coming on Sunday for lunch and I've already made the cottage pies.

"They're in the fridge, ready, because you never know what's going to happen!"

Doesn't cooking for family gatherings feel like a bit of a busman's holiday?

"Oh no, no, no!" Berry insists. "There's usually something in the freezer, so we have that."

■ *Mary Berry's Foolproof Cooking* continues on BBC Two from Monday, February 22

■ The book that accompanies the series, *Foolproof Cooking by Mary Berry,* is published in hardback by BBC Books, priced £25. Available now

I'm wild about this lamb dish

Belinda Donovan is an experienced chef who was trained at the prestigious La Varenne cooking school in France. She compiled the ***Hammersmith and Fulham Cook Book*** in 2013 and is a regular writer of cookery columns and reviews. An enthusiast for all things Fulham, she has also written articles about the area's rich local history. She is currently a Conservative councillor for the Addison ward and served as Mayor of Hammersmith and Fulham for the year 2012-13

I MET the writer Caroline Macmillan over tea and we talked about the superb *Wild about…* books that she has been writing for the last two years.

The first *Wild about* book covered Hammersmith, then Shepherd's Bush followed and the most recent launch was Wild about Fulham.

Caroline loves history and has lived in west London for over 50 years and takes great pleasure, through the books, introducing people to the places where they live.

The *Wild about* series are produced with her colleague, Andrew Wilson, who takes the wonderful photographs and also publishes them through his locally based company, Unity Publishing.

I think the books make the perfect present and would grace anyone's coffee table. Caroline's attention to detail in these books is superb – through her writing you will see how steeped in history our borough is. They are available at Nomad Books, 781 Fulham Road, SW6 5HA.

Caroline has been guiding local walks in west London for over five years. More details can be found on her website *www.westlondonwalks.co.uk*

Her next walk in Fulham will be on the Saturday, March 12. She is also a volunteer at the borough's excellent archives, which are to be found at Hammersmith Library in Shepherd's Bush Road, near Hammersmith Broadway.

We also talked about food and it emerged that we are both huge fans of slow cookers – a must when juggling everyone's busy lives! The recipe below is her great favourite.

Caroline's favourite lamb recipe

Ingredients

Shoulder of lamb (leg works well too)
2 large tins of haricot beans
Half to three quarters pint red wine
2 large onions, roughly chopped
10 shallots, roughly chopped
6 tomatoes, quartered
3 tablespoons tomato puree
Salt
Black peppercorns
10 whole cloves garlic
2 bay leaves
3 branches rosemary

Method

Ask your butcher to cut off knuckle end of shoulder, but keep it to put in the pot – a heavy le creuset type works best.

I put rosemary at the bottom of the casserole with lamb on top of it. Cover with beans and their liquid, wine, onions, shallots, tomatoes, garlic, several crushed peppercorns and salt. Tuck in bay leaves.

Bring to boil on top of stove, then place in oven for four hours at 140C/275F/Gas 1.

Increase to 220C/425F/Gas 7 for a further two hours.

Do check every now and then to ensure its not drying out – ladle some of the liquid over it.

Meat should fall off the bone. Once all the meat has gone the remaining mush makes a wonderful soup!

■ **SLOW GOOD: Shoulder of lamb**

MARK HIX'S RECIPE OF THE WEEK

Breast of chicken with ginger and wild garlic broth

Serves two

BLACK garlic is produced down my way on the South West Garlic Farm and lends itself to all sorts of things including marinades or glazes like this.

Ingredients

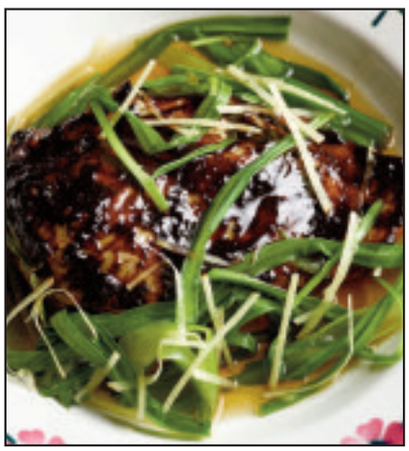
2 chicken breasts
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
4 cloves of black garlic
2tbsp treacle or honey
1tbs light soy sauce
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
100ml chicken broth from recipe
2 spring onions, cut into 3cm lengths
30g root ginger, scraped and finely shredded
A handful of wild garlic leaves and stems, separated
Breast of chicken with ginger and wild garlic broth (Jason Lowe)

Method

Pre-heat the oven to 200°C/gas mark 6. Make a paste with the black garlic, honey and soy in a blender or small food processor and season. Score the chicken breasts 5 or 6 times then place on a small baking tray lined with foil brush the breasts generously with the marinade and bake in the oven for about 15 minutes, brushing with more marinade and turning as they are cooking so they get well glazed and caramelised.

Meanwhile bring the broth to a simmer, add the spring onions, wild garlic stems and ginger and simmer for a minute then stir in the wild garlic leaves and remove from the heat.

To serve, place the chicken breasts in a pasta bowl type dish with the skin side up then spoon the broth around.



■ **MARK'S FINEST: Breast of chicken with ginger and wild garlic broth**

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4 BERTH TENT WITH FLYSHEETS perfect £80. Argos hoover £30. 2ft fish tank with lid £20, 1 large plastic dog basket £20, 1 small dog basket £10. Tel: 07955 116 607

CAT SCRATCHING POST with swinging ball, 1ft high on fixed base £9 ono. New waist high swing bin., all white, light weight to go for £7. Tel: 020 8769 0597 new straight from shop, tall to fit in corner £6. Tel: 020 8769 0597 (ring morn leave to ring).

EUROFLEX 28 EXTRA PLUS 900 Tena Comfort plus 46 £10. Fluorescent Light Bulbs for kitch/garage £5 each. Tel: 07751 434 001

BOOT SALE ITEMS £20. Tel: 020 8858 7569

NIKE AIR size 6, trainers, red/black, used good condition £5. Acoustic Guitar with holder, as new £10. Tel: 07957 178 040

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CARAVAN FOR SALE
2016 site fee's paid
Beach location
Lovely 4* Park
Fishing lake &
Clubhouse
Call Vicky
07901 245 934
£11,000
finance through park
T's & C's apply

Caravan & Camping

STATIC CARAVANS FOR SALE
Sited on 5 Star park in Clacton.
Amazing facilities including indoor and outdoor swimming pool.
Open 12 months.
£1,500 deposit. £211 per month
T&C's apply
CASH PRICE £7,995
Call Luke **07950 127697**

Static Caravans For Sale
From £7,995
Situated on 5 star park in Clacton-on-Sea
Amazing facilities including indoor and outdoor pool/ kids club and 3 entertainment venues.
Open 12 months
£1,500 deposit, £211 per month
T&C apply
Call or text Vanessa on
07854 756 231 *for details*

Domestic Appliances

AMERICAN FRIDGE FREEZER with water & ice dispenser, colour silver, collection from Bermondsey SE16, not far from Bermondsey underground, ground floor flat £100. Tel: 07735 612 012

BUSH ELECTRIC COOKER black, used 18 months, Energy A, dimensions W 60cm, D 60cm, H 90cms, fan oven, grill, separate, perfect working order £80. Email: healthywise7@yahoo.co.uk

Mother & Baby

ELEA MAXI COSY PUSHCHAIR all extras, Cosy Toes, Raincover, shopping basket, ex-cond. £50. Tel: 020 8853 2899

Musical

WASHBURN GUITAR (70s) with hardcase £100: Tel: 020 7223 0900

Tools & DIY

BRAND NEW KITCHEN WORKTOP £25, colour black and beige mixed, size 5ft 10" x 2ft. Tel: 020 8543 9874 after 7pm.

Wanted

SUBBUTEO wanted, especially 1970's football teams. Tel: 07774 788 791 or 01344 453 370 or MrChrisAllen@aol.com

MODEL RAILWAY LOCOS & ROLLING STOCK WANTED BY COLLECTOR all makes considered, call 020 8304 9180 with details.

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Contact us on 0207 381 9222
or mobile on 077 300 21407
This clinic is under new management since 4th January 2016 and specialises in the Tranditional Chinese diagnosis. Acupuncture, Herbal remedy and Acupressure to treat a wide variety of medical conditions.
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THE JUMBO JUMBLE SALE OF THE YEAR
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China & Glass - Household Goods - Radio & TVs etc.
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www.smbscouts.org.uk

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London Weekly News & South London & MERCURY

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No DSS. No Time Wasters

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Public Notices

Notice is hereby given that (a) **Union Canal Deli Ltd** of (b) **332 Ladbroke Grove, W10 5AS** has applied to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea for the GRANT of (c) Supply of alcohol on the premises only. Live Music, Recorded Music and anything similar. Indoors, Mon - Sun 11:00 - 24:00, Late Night Refreshment. Indoors, Mon - Sun 23:00 - 00:30 Opening Hours Mon - Sun -7:00 - 00:30 Seasonal Variation From the end of permitted hours New Years Eve until the start of permitted hours New Years Day. Non Standard Timing - On up to 20 occasions per annum the permitted hours may be extended to 02.00 providing the Police and Licensing Authority are given at least 7 days notice beforehand and the Police have given their prior written consent to each event for the premises (d) Canal Deli situated at (e) 332 Ladbroke Grove, W10 5AS. A register of licensing applications can be inspected at **http://www.rbkc.gov.uk/environmentandtransport/licensing.aspx** or in person at Council Offices, 37 Pembroke Road, London W8 6PW, tel. 020 7341 5152, by appointment. Any person wishing to submit representations to our application must give notice in writing to the licensing authority at the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by (f) 11/03/2016. It is an offence liable on conviction to a fine up to Level 5 on the standard scale under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with this application.

LICENSING ACT 2003
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF PREMISES LICENCE

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT **Underdog Restaurants Ltd** has applied to Kensington & Chelsea Borough Council on 11th February 2016 to vary the premises licence at **Hawksmoor, 3 Yeoman's Row, London, SW3 2AL** so as to remove condition 11 from the premises licence which reads "A door supervisor shall be present at the entrance of the premises to monitor customers on entrance and exit from 22:00 hours until closing", as more particularly set out in the application.

Any person who wishes to make a representation in relation to this application must give notice in writing to: **Licensing Department, 37 Pembroke Road, London W8 6PW** to be received by no later than 10th March 2016 stating the grounds for making said representation.

A record of the application can be inspected on the Council's website www.rbkc.gov.uk or at the above address during office hours. The register can be viewed at the above address during office hours.

It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application for a premises licence and the maximum fine on being convicted of such an offence is £5,000.

Thomas & Thomas Partners LLP
38a Monmouth Street, London, WC2H 9EP Tel. 020 7042 0410
www.tandtp.com

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Reach London & MERCURY!

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Orders are accepted by the Publishers subject to the Standard Conditions agreed between the Newspaper Society and the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising. Save that:
1. Advertisements are accepted on the conditions that (a) descriptions relating to goods are accurate and in no way contravene the provisions of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, and the Fair Trading Act 1973, and (b) the copy complies with the British Code of Advertising Practice. Advertisements offering credit or hire facilities must conform to the Consumer Credit (Advertisements) Regulations 1980.
2. 'Classified' Advertisers offering goods or service of a business, commercial or trade nature will, at the discretion of the Publishers, be deemed 'Trade Advertisers', and as such, must include their names in advertisements. A telephone number is an optional addition to these requirements and not an alternative.
To comply with the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977, Trade Advertisers must make it clear that they are selling goods in the course of business either by content, format, size or place of the advertisement or by including words such as 'trade', 'dealer', 'agent', 'wholesaler', '(T)' etc. in the advertisement.
3. The Publishers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage however caussrt arising out of:
(a) Any error, inaccuracy or omission in the printing or publishing of any advertisement;
(b) Any failure to publish an advertisement on the day / date or day / dates specified by the advertiser; or
(c) Any delay in forwarding or omission to forward replies to box numbers to the Advertiser.
4. The Publishers will endeavour to publish advertisements on the day / date or day / dates specified by the Advertiser but insertion days / dates cannot be guaranteed.
5. Where shrinkage of advertisement occurs for whatever reasons the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre. This will NOT apply to the full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.
6. The Publishers reserve the right to reject an advertisement or to vary it in any way they deem fit, at any time before publication, whether or not the advertisement has already been accepted for publication.
7. Whilst every effort is made to minimise errors in advertisements, mistakes do sometimes occur. Advertisers or their agents should therefore check their advertisements and inform us of any errors immediately. Responsibility cannot be accepted for more than one incorrect insertion. Typographical or minor changes, which do not affect the value of the advertisement, do not qualify for republication or allowances.
8. All gross advertising rates (except classified lineage and semi-display) are subject to and include a 0.1% Advertising Standards Board of Finance surcharge, payable by the advertisers to help finance the self-regulatory control system administered by the advertising Standards Authority.
9. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.
10. Should the rate for advertisements be altered the price for remaining insertions shall be revised accordingly or the publishers shall have the right to cancel the unexpired portion of the order.
11. The placing of an advertisement order will be deemed an acceptance of these conditions.
12. Account facilities are granted at the discretion of the Company.
13. All accounts must be settled within the terms agreed by the Company and the Customer.
(1) Should an advertiser be in breach of the agreed terms, the publisher shall be entitled to levy a 10% surcharge on the value of the whole debt in respect of accounts with terms of less than 30 days, and any discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed.
(2) Regular monthly accounts that are in breach of the agreed terms will pay an interest rate of 6% above the current bank of England base rate for each month that the account is overdue and discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed. Should Legal action be required the interest will be charged in accordance with the County Court Act 1984.
14. Where an advertiser instructs / appoints an advertising agent to act on their behalf, the advertiser will remain jointly and severally liable for payment in respect for an advertisement(s) should the appointed agent fail to pay. For the avoidance of doubt, the agent acts for the advertiser and not for the publisher with the agent being responsible for notifying the advertiser of this liability.
15. All queries must be notified, preferably in writing to the accounts department of the publisher within 7 days of the invoice date.
16. All digital services are maintained in partnership with the publishers' hosting service providers. Every effort is made to ensure the continuity of these services, but some occasional technical downtime beyond the publishers control may occur. The publisher and its associated companies shall be under no liability if the production and distribution of web services is delayed or prevented by any cause beyond the control of the publisher.
17. The Publisher may provide voucher copies for published advertisements in electronic form only subject to certain criteria. Further information is available on request.
18. The copyright of advertisements produced wholly or partially by the Publishers belong to the Publishers. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the Publishers' consent.

Box Numbers
Boxes are open for the receipt of bona fide answers and are not available for distribution of trade canvassing matter. Original testimonials, goods, cash, cash stamps or payments of any kind must not be enclosed. A box Number and postal address are charged as part of the advertisement, i.e. Box No., centre address. There is no charge for forwarding replies.
Box numbers alone are not available for use in 'Trade' advertisements, other than Employment and Business Opportunities.

Holiday & Travel Category
All advertising must contain the name of the advertiser, phone number alone are not permitted.

Data Protection
The service you have requested may require us to carry out a credit search at a credit-referencing agency, which will record the fact that a search has been made. We may need to share your information with other lenders and credit reference agencies. However, we will only use the information from these searches to make credit-granting decisions and, if necessary, for fraud prevention or tracing debtors.
Data controller will use your information for administration and analysis. We may share your information with other Tindle Group Newspaper companies or carefully selected third parties. We, or they, may send you details of other goods and services, which may be of interest to you. The information may be provided by letter, telephone or other reasonable means of communication. Calls may be recorded or monitored for training purposes.
Special conditions apply with regard to the advertising of adult services, which are outlined to all persons submitting such advertisements.

Local Planning Applications
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

h&f putting residents first

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990
I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows:
FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA

Filmer Road Studios 75 Filmer Road London SW6 7JF 2016/00292/FUL
Demolition of units 1-9 and erection of six three storey plus basement buildings for use as six new dwelling houses.

Shepherd's Bush Common Shepherd's Bush Green London 2016/00375/FR3
Erection of the art installation 'Goaloids' on Shepherd's Bush Common.

21 Sterndale Road London W14 0HT 2016/00407/FUL
Installation of new timber door to front elevation to replace existing uPVC door at lower ground floor level.

68 Sinclair Road London W14 0NJ 2016/00231/FUL
Erection of a timber clad bin store in the front garden.

14 St Dunstan's Road London W6 8RB 2016/00514/FUL
Erection of a rear roof extension; erection of glass screening around flat roof at first floor level in connection with its use as a terrace; erection of a single storey side extension, on top of the existing side addition in connection with the conversion of the single family dwelling house into 1x1 bedroom and 1x3 bedroom self contained flats.

498 - 504 Fulham Road London SW6 5NH 2015/05148/FUL
Erection of a two storey double mansard roof extension to the 3 storey building fronting North End Road, in connection with the creation of 3 x one bedroom self-contained flats, including raising the parapet and gables to the North End Road elevation.

23 Crondace Road London SW6 4BS 2016/00406/VAR
Variation of condition 2 of planning permission ref: 2014/04588/FUL granted 19th November 2014 to allow amendments to the approved plans to include: installation of a new rooflight above the main flat roof at roof level, relocation and alterations to the size of the windows to the side of rear back additions at first and second floor level, lowering the floor level of ground floor and alterations to the roof of single storey back addition, installation of new doors and windows at ground floor level to the rear elevation and installation of timber doors to replace the window to front lightwell.

Flat First Floor 355 North End Road London SW6 1NW 2016/00416/FUL
Change of use of the first floor from a 2 bedroom residential flat (Class C3) into a dental practice Class D1); merging of the lower ground, upper ground and first floor levels to use as a single dental practice (Class D1).

3 Beavor Grove Beavor Lane London W6 9AU 2016/00419/FUL
Erection of a single storey rear extension.

209 Hammersmith Grove London W6 0NP 2016/00422/FUL
Erection of a rear extension at upper ground floor level; erection of metal balustrades around the flat roof at upper ground floor level to the rear elevation, in connection with its use as a terrace; installation of new metal folding doors to replace the existing doors at window at lower ground floor level to the rear elevation.

Land At Junction Of Fulham Road And Landridge Road In Front Of 923 - 931 Fulham Road London SW6 5HY 2016/00423/FUL
Installation of a 12.5 metre high monopole with 6 no. antennas, installation of a radio equipment cabinet and associated ancillary works.

25 Queensmill Road London SW6 6JP 2016/00444/FUL
Erection of a front roof extension; installation of a new door window to replace the existing window in the rear rooflslope and to the rear elevation of second floor back addition.

106 Uxbridge Road London W12 8LR 2016/00443/FUL
Installation of a new shopfront and stall risers.

19 Poplar Grove London W6 7RF 2016/00450/FUL
Excavation of the front, side and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

208 Fulham Palace Road London W6 9NT 2016/00469/ADV
Display of an internally illuminated advertisement hoarding measuring (3m height x 4.5m width x 0.15m depth) on the flank elevation facing Larnach Road at first floor level.

34 Bassein Park Road London W12 9RZ 2016/00470/FUL
Amendments to previously approved planning permission ref: 2015/03733/FUL granted 30th September 2015 for the 'Lowering the floor level of the existing basement and enlargement of the front and rear lightwells; formation of new external steps from basement to garden level at the rear of the property.' Amendments to include further excavation and enlargement of the existing basement and front lightwell.

60 Carthew Road London W6 0DX 2016/00491/FUL
Erection of a front roof extension.

23 Digby Mansions Hammersmith Bridge Road London W6 9DE 2016/00352/FUL
Conversion of first floor flat into 1 x two bedroom and 1 x studio self-contained flats.

61 White City Road London W12 7EQ 2015/05456/FUL
Installation of an ATM machine to the front elevation.

165 New King's Road London SW6 4SN 2016/00488/VAR
Variation of condition 2 of planning permission ref: 2015/00636/FUL granted 16th April 2015 to allow amendments to the front mansard roof extension.

14 Kilmaine Road London SW6 7JX 2016/00489/FUL
Erection of an additional floor at roof level; erection of a part three, part four storey rear extensions at lower ground, upper ground, first and second floor level following the demolition of the single storey conservatory extension; erection of a single storey rear extension to the side of the extension back addition.

1 Studdridge Street London SW6 3SL 2016/00337/FUL
Erection of a rear extension at second floor level, over part of the existing back addition; installation of a new door with a Juliet balcony in the rear roofslope; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side of the existing back addition; alterations to the roof of single storey back addition; excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

26 Ashchurch Park Villas London W12 9SP 2016/00351/FUL
Erection of rear extensions at ground and first floor level; excavation under the footprint of the dwellinghouse to form front and rear lightwells in connection with the creation of a new basement; erection of an external staircase from basement to garden level at the rear of the property; installation of a new rooflight in the rear and side roofslope to replace the existing rooflights; installation of a new window at first floor level, replacement of existing window with a new and the formation of external steps at ground floor level to the side elevation; formation of planters with glass balustrades, erection of glass balustrades around the perimeter of the rear lightwell and associated landscaping in the rear garden.

58 Bishop's Road London SW6 7AH 2016/00357/FUL
Excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the creation of a new basement.

46 Novello Street London SW6 4JB 2016/00031/FUL
Erection of a rear roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; installation of 2no rooflights in the front roofslope.

74 Lysia Street London SW6 6NE 2016/00432/FUL
Erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side and rear of the existing back addition; installation of a new window at ground floor level to the side elevation; excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the creation of a new basement; conversion of the existing building comprising of 2no self-contained flats into a single family dwellinghouse.

31A North End Road London W14 8SZ 2016/00100/FUL
The use of the ground floor as a restaurant (Class A3) with ancillary takeaway.

4 And 6 Ravenscourt Square London W6 0TW 2016/00275/FUL
Extend the existing entrance doors to both No's 4 and 6 outwards into the arches with a recess of 200mm from the main facade.

Flat A Ground Floor 25 Eithiron Road London SW6 4BP 2016/00182/FUL
Excavation of front garden and part of rear garden to form lightwells, in connection with the creation of the basement; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side and rear of the existing back addition.

5 Walham Grove London SW6 1QP 2016/00521/FUL
Erection of a rear extension at first floor level over part of the existing back addition; excavation under the footprint of the building to form front and rear lightwells, in connection with the creation of a new basement; excavation of part of the front garden to form a lightwell in connection with the creation of a new room in between lower ground floor and basement level; alterations to the rear fenestrations at lower ground to upper ground floor level to include installation of new doors, windows and a Juliet balcony at lower ground floor level to the rear elevation; erection of an external staircase from basement to garden level at the rear of the property.

Marie D'Orliac Clancarty Road London SW6 3AA 2016/00529/FR3
External alterations to include installation of a commercial extraction canopy and associated roof mounted AC heat pump system plant, alterations to 4no windows to the rear of the property to facilitate extraction/air supply ducting; relocation of the existing door, installation of a new window and a retractable ladder to the side elevation; associated internal and external alterations.

Flat First Floor 84 Margravine Gardens London W6 8RJ 2016/00473/FUL
Erection of a rear roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; installation of 2no rooflights in the front roofslope and 1no dome rooflight over the main flat roof at roof level.

122 - 124 Hammersmith Road London W6 7JP 2016/00478/FUL
Change of use from retail shop (Class A1) to restaurant/cafe (Class A3); installation of an extractor fan with high level grill to the rear elevation.

61 White City Road London W12 7EQ 2015/05457/ADV
Display of an internally illuminated ATM surround to the front elevation.

Old Courthouse 43 North End Road London W14 8SZ 2016/00441/FUL
Conversion of offices (Use Class B1) on ground floor to 2 x 2 bed apartments (Use Class C3); alterations to the internal layout including construction of new timber studwork/plasterboard partitions, creation of new door openings, blocking up of existing door opening, fitting new window in door opening, fitting new door in window opening, new suspended ceiling, removal of external fire escape.

Old Courthouse 43 North End Road London W14 8SZ 2016/00442/LBC
Conversion of offices (Use Class B1) on ground floor to 2 x 2 bed apartments (Use Class C3); alterations to the internal layout including construction of new timber studwork/plasterboard partitions, creation of new door openings, blocking up of existing door opening, fitting new window in door opening, fitting new door in window opening, new suspended ceiling, removal of external fire escape.

58 Bishop's Road London SW6 7AH 2016/00357/FUL
Excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the creation of a new basement.

46 Novello Street London SW6 4JB 2016/00031/FUL
Erection of a rear roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; installation of French doors and a Juliet balcony in the rear roofslope; erection of a single storey rear extension; excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the creation of a new basement.

41 Cromwell Grove London W6 7RQ 2016/00534/FUL
Erection of a side and rear dormer roof extension involving an increase in the ridge height; erection of a rear extension at second floor level, on top of the existing back addition; re-building of the single storey back addition; increasing the height of the side boundary wall; installation of a new window to the side elevation at second floor level.

40 Blythe Road London W14 0HA 2016/00467/VAR
Removal of conditions 11 (preliminary risk assessment report), 12 (site investigation scheme), 13 (quantitative risk assessment report), 14 (remediation method statement), 15 (verification report) And 16 (onward long-term monitoring methodology report) of planning permission ref: 2015/01713/FUL granted 24th August 2015.

358 North End Road London SW6 1LY 2016/00511/VAR
Variation of Conditions 21 and 22 (car parking permits) of planning permission ref: 2013/03637/FUL granted 11th October 2013 to change 'No occupier of Flat 1 at basement and ground floor level and Flat 2 at first floor level hereby permitted, with the exception of disabled persons who are blue badge holders, shall apply to the Council for a parking permit or retain such a permit the occupier of the property to apply for a street parking permit' to 'No occupier of Flat 1 at basement and ground floor level and Flat 3 at second and third floor levels hereby permitted, with the exception of disabled persons who are blue badge holders, shall apply to the Council for a parking permit or retain such a permit.

FOR CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT (DEMOLITION WORK)
FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT

Marie D'Orliac Clancarty Road London SW6 3AA 2016/00530/LBCHF
External alterations to include installation of a commercial extraction canopy and associated roof mounted AC heat pump system plant, alterations to 4no windows to the rear of the property to facilitate extraction/air supply ducting; relocation of the existing door, installation of a new window and a retractable ladder to the side elevation; internal alterations to include installation a commercial kitchen on the ground floor to include decoration to walls, new vinyl flooring and new suspended ceiling; associated internal and external alterations

Old Courthouse 43 North End Road London W14 8SZ 2016/00442/LBC
Conversion of offices (Use Class B1) on ground floor to 2 x 2 bed apartments (Use Class C3); alterations to the internal layout including construction of new timber studwork/plasterboard partitions, creation of new door openings, blocking up of existing door opening, fitting new window in door opening, fitting new door in window opening, new suspended ceiling, removal of external fire escape.

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE SETTING OR CONTEXT OF A LISTED BUILDING

23 Clonmel Road London SW6 5BL 2016/00414/FUL
Erection of a front and rear roof extension; erection of a single storey rear extension, to the side and rear of the existing back addition.

Marie D'Orliac Clancarty Road London SW6 3AA 2016/00529/FR3
External alterations to include installation of a commercial extraction canopy and associated roof mounted AC heat pump system plant, alterations to 4no windows to the rear of the property to facilitate extraction/air supply ducting; relocation of the existing door, installation of a new window and a retractable ladder to the side elevation; associated internal and external alterations.

Old Courthouse 43 North End Road London W14 8SZ 2016/00441/FUL
Conversion of offices (Use Class B1) on ground floor to 2 x 2 bed apartments (Use Class C3); alterations to the internal layout including construction of new timber studwork/plasterboard partitions, creation of new door openings, blocking up of existing door opening, fitting new window in door opening, fitting new door in window opening, new suspended ceiling, removal of external fire escape.

3 Shottendane Road London SW6 5TJ 2015/04383/FUL
Excavation of front garden and part of rear garden to form lightwells, in connection with the enlargement of the basement; erection of an external staircase from basement to garden level at the rear of the property; installation of new sliding folding doors and a window to replace the existing doors and window at ground floor level to the rear elevation; alterations to the roof of single storey back addition to include the replacement of 2no rooflights with solid roof.

Shepherd's Bush Common Shepherd's Bush Green London 2016/00375/FR3
Erection of the art installation 'Goaloids' on Shepherd's Bush Common.
Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by **6th March 2016**. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 2013
NOTICES UNDER REGULATION 13

Elsinore House 77 Fulham Palace Road London W6 8JA 2016/00383/VAR
I give notice that Fulham Palace Investment Ltd is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Minor material amendments to planning permission reference: 2015/00266/FUL granted 07.12.2015 for the variation of condition 2 for Alterations and extensions to existing building including new cladding, installation of a glass walkway to north elevation, and the erection of a part single, part two and three storey extension to south elevation (350sq.m of new GIA) in connection with the change of use of ground and first floors from Class B1a offices to flexible use within Classes A1, A2, A3 (1,975 sq.m GIA); alterations to existing vehicle access from Fulham Palace Road'. Amendments include cladding removed from 3rd to 5th floor west elevation, cladding removed from north elevation stair core and inclusion of the green wall, removal of door and canopy to the new pedestrian access in the north elevation, enlargement of the office reception and moving of the new office entrance from the west elevation to the north elevation of the southern block, introduction of external ramps, steps, barriers, balustrades and handrails added to the landscaped area and provision of barriers along Fulham Palace Road, provision of 13 long-stay cycle parking spaces and 23 short-stay cycle parking spaces (instead of 52no.cycle parking spaces approved) and , incorporation of refuse store into the cycle shelter, removal of all the existing projecting windows from the east elevation and south block and replacement with rectangular windows, erection of an external lift to the north east corner of the building for access to the second floor office in the north block, removal of northern door to Unit 2, provision of plant on the second floor, installation of skylights above ground and first floor in Unit C, provision of ventilation ducts above ground floor to be contained within zinc clad enclosures, louvres added to 1st floor south elevation to serve Unit 2.
The proposal constitutes a major development.
Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by **6th March 2016**. See below for ways of commenting on applications.

Signed: **NIGEL PALLACE**
Executive Director for Transport and Technical Services
on behalf of HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL

You can view applications, make comments and monitor their progress on our website: www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning. Click on the 'Planning Online' logo on the Planning Home Page.
You can also E-mail comments to: plancomments@lbhf.gov.uk
You can also inspect details of applications using computers at our office RECEPTION FIRST FLOOR HAMMERSMITH TOWN HALL EXTENSION KING STREET W6 between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.
If you want to make comments on applications please E-mail them through our website or post them to **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICE ENVIRONMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT TOWN HALL KING STREET W6 9JU** by the date shown above. Please include the application reference number and the name of the planning officer. We will try to consider any representations received after the date indicated but this cannot be guaranteed so please reply promptly. For initial enquiries call our information and reception service on **020 8753 1081** or **020 8753 1082**.

lbhf.gov.uk/planning Online
Send us your comments about planning applications via our website: **www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning**

Hammersmith & Fulham Council

LONDON WEEKLY JOBS

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A Caretaker is required to work 20 hours a week i.e. 8am to 12pm Monday to Friday at our head office in St Charles Square, W10.

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For an application form for any of the above posts, please contact **020 8969 5305** or **reception@cathchild.org.uk**

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'Unacceptable' R's are taken apart

MANAGER Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink said Saturday's embarrassing 3-1 home defeat by local rivals Fulham was "totally unacceptable", while Queens Park Rangers chairman Tony Fernandes described himself as "embarrassed".

Hasselbaink also apologised to Hoops fans, who booed their team off at half-time with the visitors already coasting to a 3-0 lead. Substitute Tjaronn Chery's goal in added time was an irrelevance.

"I must say sorry to the fans. We let them down and we let ourselves down and it wasn't good enough. It's a bitter pill to swallow. This result is hard to take," he said.

"Now we have to look to try and put this right.

"We never got started. We've had quick starts in the past but that didn't happen today. That's two steps back.

"I must say credit to Fulham – they were the better team in the first half, and in parts of the second. They changed their formation a little bit – and we couldn't cope. It just wasn't good enough.

Re-focus

"We need to go back to the start and re-focus and get back to work again to put this right, because this wasn't anywhere near the standards we all expect.

"What we've done well in previous games, we did really, really averagely today. And Fulham capitalised on that."

To be fair to Hasselbaink, he has inherited a mess. Rangers could barely string two passes together and their midfield gave their direct opponents, Scott Parker, Jamie O'Hara and the impressive Tom Cairney, the freedom of west London in which to control and dictate the game. The possession stats, 60/40 per cent in Fulham's favour, told the story.

At half-time, German striker Seb Poulter was replaced by new signing Conor Washington, who at least managed to force Fulham keeper Andy Lonergan into making a rare save. Fellow newcomer and sub Nasser El Khayati also added a bit of much needed nous and invention in the last third but it was too little too late.

Later, at least Poulter had the good grace to admit to his Twitter followers that he had played poorly, although he could have been speaking for the whole team.

The injured Ale Faurlin was sorely missed but his absence was no excuse for this gutless performance.

Fernandes urged his Twitter followers not to overreact to the result but it is surely the minimal right of every football fan to expect their team to give 100 per cent. A sizeable proportion of disgruntled fans wearing blue-and-white among the crowd of 17,335 had left their seats long before the final whistle in W12.

Right from the outset, Rangers never looked like avenging the 4-0 caning they received at Craven Cottage last September. Their team has been drastically weakened since then and if it wasn't already obvious that replacing Charlie Austin's goals tally will be a mammoth task, Saturday's debacle emphasised it.

Capitulating

Instead of building upon the previous week's 1-0 home win over Ipswich Town, R's dropped to 14th in the table by capitulating to another woeful London derby defeat with a limp display against a side that outplayed them in every department.

Saturday's visit to beleaguered bottom-of-the-table Bolton Wanderers provides R's with an ideal opportunity to get back into winning mode, before a more daunting trip to promotion-chasing, in-form Sheffield Wednesday next Tuesday.

QPR club representatives will meet with the Supporters' Consultation Committee on Wednesday, March 2.

Rangers' CEO Lee Hoos said: "We are a club that encourages constructive feedback from our supporters and that's the main purpose of the Supporters' Consultation Committee.

"We will meet with the committee, as well as the regular contributors from the fans' websites, in early March to discuss a variety of issues. I'm sure 2016-17 season tickets will be on the agenda again."

In the meantime, should fans wish to express their views or raise issues for discussion at the Supporters' Consultation Committee meeting, please contact customer services manager Andy Rees via email at andyr@qpr.co.uk.

UNHAPPY R's boss Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink

LOFTUS ROAD RANGERS REVIEW
With Tony McDonald

FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Saturday, February 20
FULHAM v Charlton Athletic, 3.00
Bolton Wanderers v QPR 3.00
Sunday, February 21
Manchester City v CHELSEA (FAC 5), 4.00
Tuesday, February 23
Leeds United v FULHAM, 7.45
Sheffield Wednesday v QPR, 7.45

GARY Cahill will replace the injured Kurt Zouma Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

Cahill steps in

CHELSEA from back page

GARY Cahill is taking full advantage of the Zouma and Terry injury situation and is now set for a prolonged run in the side.

On the big win over Newcastle, he said: "For me, it was so good because I went in at half-time thinking we could have had two or three more.

"We did everything right, attacking wise and defensively. I can't remember Thibaut (Courtois) having too much to do because everyone worked so hard.

"What was pleasing was the amount of times we quickly regained possession after losing it. That was down to everyone. The work-rate was there, which is the platform for everything to build on and the flair players had a good afternoon."

Speaking ahead of the meeting in Paris with PSG, Cahill said: "We know how difficult PSG are going to be.

"It's tied up nicely for a third meeting (Chelsea has played PSG in the past two seasons, winning one and losing the other). This game always has pressure on it. We were top of the league last year but there is still massive pressure on these games. You just get a feel of how big the game is.

"This season, in the league, it has not gone to plan. We've got opportunities in the Champions League and FA Cup and we want to go as far as we can.

"It's virtually half a game, the away leg. We want to get a positive result to come back to Stamford Bridge in a good position because the European nights are special there."

The return leg will be played at Chelsea on Wednesday, March 9.

"We have to prove that we're a good team and good players on the biggest stage," Cahill added.

"Everyone talks about wanting Champions League football. We got through the group and are facing PSG It's massive. I've had experience o going all the way and it lives with you forever."

In 2012, Chelsea were out of the top four Premier League places and had to win the Champions League final to qualify for the following season's tournament. That achievement is no lost on Cahill.

"I remember thinking at the time tha we're going to have to win this to ge back into the Champions League," he said.

With no guarantee of Champion League football next season, will it be a problem recruiting new stars and holding on to existing ones, himsel included?

"I think people are realising that. Bu you'd like to think this year is a slip-up in the league and next season will be totally different.

"Everyone is under contract until the summer and if the players have any ambition to win anything this year, we have a competition in which we mus fight as hard as possible to win. Wha happens in the summer, happens in the summer.

"Everyone should be ambitious Nobody should be looking anywhere else but focusing on winning something before the end of the season.

"It is such a short career, which is why I said a few weeks ago that I wan to play football and not let it pass me by, by missing games. It's down to whoever that individual is. It's down to their goals and their ambitions and the club's vision.

"This club doesn't need to sell itsel to anybody. Everyone has thei ambitions but it will be dictated by the club, as everyone is under contract."

Voges back to lead Middlesex

MIDDLESEX have re-signed Australia batsman Adam Voges as their overseas player for all formats in 2016.

The 36-year-old, who has had spells at Lord's in each of the last two seasons, has committed to spend two periods of the campaign at the Home of Cricket.

Voges, who will captain Middlesex in the County Championship, took his Test batting average to 97.46 when he was out for 239 in Australia's first Test in Wellington, New Zealand on Sunday.

His innings, one of the major factors in a runaway Aussie victory at the Basin Reserve, briefly elevated his average above that of the legendary Sir Don Bradman.

Middlesex have also announced Dawid Malan and James Franklin will skipper the side in the T20 Blast and One-Day Cup respectively. They replace England limited-overs captain Eoin Morgan, who has given up the roles.

Voges, who has played 14 Tests for Australia since making his debut in June 2015, will fit his spells at Middlesex around his international commitments and the availability of big-hitting New Zealand star Brendon McCullum, who has signed a deal to play limited-overs cricket for the club.

He will initially be available from the start of the season until early June, and is expected to return in mid-August.

"Adam's return is something we are all delighted with," managing director of cricket Angus Fraser said.

"He may not have spent a huge amount of time with us but during the time he has been with us he has made an extremely positive impression. He continues to show what a high-quality player he is."

New Zealand skipper McCullum will join Middlesex at the conclusion of his commitments in the Indian Premier League.

The 34-year-old could potentially appear in seven T20 matches and four in the 50-over One-Day Cup.

FULHAM from back page

In truth, an even bigger margin of victory – their eighth in 10 meetings with QPR – wouldn't have flattered Fulham, who maintained an iron-grip on the game to record their first win on the road since visiting Bristol City last October. It was the 70th minute before Andy Lonergan had a real save to make.

Although Fulham fans should not get carried away with two wins in 17 games, recent performances under the new Serbian coach have been more purposeful and shown clear signs of promise. At last, they are becoming more difficult to beat.

"We do a lot of homework," continued Jokanović. "My obligation is to try and find a weakness in the opposition."

Fulham were dealt a blow early on when young Dane Lasse Vigen Christensen limped out of the action in the fifth minute with what Jokanović confirmed was a hamstring strain.

On Saturday, Fulham will be looking to record their first home league win of 2016 when second-from-bottom Charlton Athletic venture across from south London desperate for points to ease their relegation fears.

Whites go back on the road next Tuesday with a visit to Leeds United.

London Weekly News

SPORT

Thursday, February 18th, 2016 ● SPORTS DESK: 07711 169 427

Defensive double blow

● By LWN reporter **Paul Lagan**
sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk

CHELSEA finish the most important week of their calamitous season so far with a fierce FA Cup fifth round tie against Manchester City on Sunday with a defensive crisis on their hands.

Guus Hiddink's preferred centre-back partnership of Kurt Zouma and John Terry has being ripped apart through injury.

Zouma is out for the rest of the season with anterior cruciate ligament damage sustained two weeks ago against Manchester United, while Terry is struggling to make a date with destiny having limped off with a hamstring problem in the 5-1 drubbing of Newcastle United at The Bridge on Saturday.

It could be that Terry has already played his last ever FA Cup match.

The omens are pointing to the exit door for Terry, who is unlikely to be granted a one-year extension to his contract which ends on July 1. And that's despite the injury to Zouma.

Frankly, it's an irrelevance that the young French defender is out for six months. Chelsea have already done their business in that department for next season, with the signing of USA star Matt Miazga. The club's intention is to dump Terry and work on the partnership of Gary Cahill with Zouma, with Miazga playing in domestic cup matches before pushing the other two for a league starting spot.

Stalling tactic

Chelsea's insistence that it's not all over for Terry and that the club will wait until a new manager is appointed before deciding his fate, is simply a stalling tactic designed to quell any dissent from fans.

The coming weeks will see an orchestrated increase of pressure by them to force Roman Abramovich into a U-turn. The chances of success are slim. But, as we have seen from Liverpool fans' success in forcing a volte-face from their hierarchy over ticket prices, anything is possible.

LWN Sport went to press before Tuesday's Champions League last 16 first leg encounter with Paris St-Germain but it was highly unlikely that Terry would have recovered sufficiently in time to step out into the cauldron of the Parc des Princes. In fact, Sunday's meeting with Man City at The Etihad might also be a game too soon. Should Chelsea lose it, then Terry's love affair with the FA Cup will have come to an abrupt and disappointing end.

Terry, 35, has won five FA Cups in his haul of 14 major trophies spanning a 21-year career in SW6.

Interim boss Guus Hiddink is relishing the task of lifting Blues as far up the Premier League table as possible and the weekend thrashing of the Magpies was a welcome boost – his first home league win since succeeding Jose Mourinho in December.

Victories have been in short supply and despite the easy win on a run of 10 league games without defeat, Blues are still languishing in 12th place.

"We have been telling people we are unbeaten but this was our first home win since I arrived in December," he said "We were unbeaten but we were not really proud of that.

"After the recovery from December to now, there have been too many draws. We wanted to have the status of unbeaten but with victories. That is why it was good to get the three points."

Even so, Hiddink and his players were not entirely happy.

"The only thing we are not happy with, and that's a good sign, is that we conceded a goal," he said.

"We were sloppy in losing possession but we did not defend well either. I was pleased to see the players were not happy – that's a good signal."

Hiddink confessed that it's a difficult job juggling the pressure of the lowly league position with the expectations of extended cup runs, both domestically and in Europe.

"It is about fitness and freshness," he insisted. "The team was very fresh against Newcastle, they love to play football but they worked very hard as well, with a high intensity.

"We have a massive game coming up at the weekend and we have a bit of damage with John Terry. He has a muscular problem and I hope we will not have more damage."

Hiddink resisted the chance to play a weakened team against Newcastle despite the visitors' own parlous league position.

High pressure

"We brought in three players but I did not underestimate them," he said. "Newcastle were not short of quality, because they have made some good signings in the (transfer) window. What we did well in the first part of the game was not let them come into it. We surprised them with high pressure and then we forced two, even three, goals within a short period.

"If I had rested players, they would have come more easily into their game.

"It was one of the best performances this season. The way we started the game was great. We spoke before that although the ship is settled and we've been on a good run, we've had a lot of draws along the way and we needed to turn them into wins. We went about our business well, it is a fantastic result."

A couple of players coming into top form at the business end of the season are last season's player of the year, Eden Hazard, and triple Champions League winner with Barcelona, Pedro, who scored twice against Newcastle. Diego Costa, Willian and Bertrand Traore completed the rout.

"I'm happy Eden played 90 minutes against Newcastle," said the Dutchman. "He was out for many weeks with two injuries. That is why we brought him to a high level step by step."

■ Continued page 27

■ PEDRO scored twice in Blues' 5-1 victory against Newcastle Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

This week at STAMFORD BRIDGE

Focus on Craven Cottage

By TONY McDONALD

Fulham's derby delight

AFTER months of anguish, frustration and anxiety, long-suffering Fulham fans were finally beaming again this week after seeing their side complete a richly deserved west London derby double over Queens Park Rangers in the most emphatic fashion.

Saturday's thumping 3-1 victory at Loftus Road may not have looked, on paper, quite as comprehensive as their 4-0 humiliation of Hoops at Craven Cottage last September, but it was every bit as convincing.

What a way for Slaviša Jokanović to earn his first win in seven matches as Fulham's head coach, ending a winless run that stretched back to December 29.

First-half goals from Ross McCormack, Moussa Dembélé and Tom Cairney, scored in 12 minutes before the break, sent rampant Whites on their way to a memorable win, before Tjaronn Chery netted for Rangers in injury-time.

"We put in some brilliant performances to win the match," said Jokanović afterwards. "The only disappointing thing was at the end when we conceded, so didn't keep a clean sheet.

"We can do better but at the end I can be happy for my players and our supporters. It's only one game, so it's important to keep working hard and try to win the games in front of us."

The three points lifted Fulham to 18th place, ahead of last Tuesday's rearranged trip to Blackburn Rovers, played after LWN went to press.

"Nothing is easy," said Jokanović. "We're working hard in training and at the end of it we got a present today. It's good for our confidence and we're a good football team, which is a positive. We'll enjoy this for a few hours and then look at what's in front of us.

Find balance

"This team can score goals, they did before I arrived here, but we need to find the balance to be more solid in defence."

Chery's late goal was the 50th conceded by Whites in 30 league matches – their last clean sheet achieved way back in mid-October – and must have been a minor irritation to Jokanović. But this was a day for Fulham fans to celebrate, not gripe about.

Deploying a back three strengthened by the arrival of Austrian debutant Michael Madl alongside Dan Burn and Fernando Amorebieta, Fulham dominated from the off, out-playing Rangers with a neat passing game that the hosts never came close to matching and made a mockery of the visitors' lowly league position.

Cairney's delightful, defence-splitting pass to set up McCormack for his 18th goal of the season embodied all that was good about Fulham as a creative attacking force. The in-form Cairney, 25, is one of the best passing midfielders in the Championship and his goal – a close-range follow-up after Dembélé's shot had rebounded from the post – was no less than his accomplished performance deserved.

Like his fellow goalscorers, Cairney is likely to be targeted by clubs who believe they have more to offer than Fulham. In the meantime, he, McCormack and Dembélé will be buoyed by having got on the score-sheet again and more of the same in the last few months of the season will only enhance their status and, in the case of the former two, their transfer value.

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